

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017



**CBCAP ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015
AND APPLICATION 2016-2017**

Montana Children's Trust Fund
June 3, 2016



Nurturing Children, Supporting Communities, Strengthening Families

I. SUBMISSION LETTER

May 30, 2016

Mr. Rafael López
Commissioner
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
330 C Street SW - 3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Commissioner López,

Attached is the Montana Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Grant Annual Report for 2014-2015 and the Application for 2016-2017, Log No: ACYF-CB-PI-16-02. The 2016-2017 application, including all attachments, will be electronically submitted to the email address of cbcaphhs@acf.hhs.gov, the CBCAP Federal Program Officer at the Office on Child Abuse and Neglect. The annual program report is also attached.

The State CEO Documentation, the Lead Agency Assurances, the Certification of Lobbying, and the Leverage Sheet (those that require original signatures) are attached in a PDF format. Several other attachments are also included such as the 2015-2016 MT RFP, Reporting Forms, Data Reports and other relevant documents.

One copy is to be submitted electronically to the Federal Regional Office (RO) that serves Montana: Marilyn Kennerson, with the Administration for Children and Families, Byron G. Rogers Federal Office Building, 999 18th Street, South Terrace, 4th Floor, Denver CO 80202 at the email address: marilyn.kennerson@acf.hhs.gov.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jamey Petersen, CBCAP Grant Administrator at jpetersen@mt.gov or (406) 444-3002.

Thank you.

Clementine Lindley
Montana Children's Trust Fund Board President

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

II. LEAD AGENCY IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

**COMMUNITY-BASED GRANTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND
NEGLECT OR COMMUNITY-BASED CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION GRANT
APPLICATION**

Log No: ACYF-CB-PI-16-02

FAX (406) 444-1970

APPLICANT Montana Children's Trust Fund
Montana DPHHS, Prevention Resource Center
PO Box 4210
Helena, MT 59604

E-MAIL jpetersen@mt.gov

EIN 810-30-2402
DUNS 142 549 299

PROGRAM CONTACT Jamey Petersen
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Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
Prevention Resource Center
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PHONE (406) 444-3002
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FISCAL CONTACT Sheri Vukasin
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Director's Office
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III. GOVERNOR DOCUMENTATION AND ASSURANCES

LEAD AGENCY DESIGNATION LETTER

ORIGINAL LETTER WITH SIGNATURE ATTACHED IN PDF FORMAT

GOVERNOR'S ASSURANCES

ORIGINAL WITH SIGNATURE ATTACHED IN PDF FORMAT

IV. LEAD AGENCY ASSURANCES

ORIGINAL WITH SIGNATURE ATTACHED IN PDF FORMAT

V. LEVERAGED CLAIM FORM

ORIGINAL WITH SIGNATURE ATTACHED IN PDF FORMAT

VI. BUDGET

MONTANA CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND PROJECTED BUDGET
JULY 1, 2016 - JUNE 30, 2017

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

**Montana Children's Trust Fund: PROJECTED BUDGET
JULY 1, 2016 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2017**

CATEGORY	FEDERAL CBCAP	STATE SPECIAL	STATE GENERAL	TOTAL FUNDING	% OF ALL FUNDS
AGENCY INDIRECT	\$6,765.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,765.00	1.41%
STAFF TRAVEL	\$8,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,500.00	1.77%
GRANTEE MTG/TRAIN/EVAL	\$13,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,500.00	2.81%
STAT PLANNING	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	0.42%
ZERO TO THREE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110,000.00	\$110,000.00	22.93%
PROGRAM CONTRACTS	\$105,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$0.00	\$230,000.00	47.94%
PROGRAM STAFF/VISTA	\$24,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$44,000.00	9.17%
BOARD ADMIN/TRAIN/TRV	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	2.08%
PUBLIC AWARENESS	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	5.21%
SPECIALPROJECTS/MINIGRANTS	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	6.25%
TOTAL AMOUNTS	\$224,765.00*	\$145,000	\$110,000.00	\$479,765.00	100.00%

The CBCAP grant is supported by a 0.75 FTE position within the MT DPHHS. The costs and funding associated with this position are **not** included in the numbers listed above. This position is allocated across the department to all programs that work with and are funded as child abuse and neglect prevention programs.

*The MT CTF anticipates spending \$224,765.00, which is over the \$200,000 CBCAP base amount received annually. We have funds from the previous year's CBCAP grant that we will be spending, justifying the funding amounts in the CBCAP column over the base amount. Additionally, we anticipate a small increase in our award based on our leveraged funds.

BUDGET NARRATIVE:

Agency Indirect (\$6,765.00): These funds are used for indirect costs that cover fiscal oversight of the grant, general monthly operating costs, fiscal reports, quarterly and annual fiscal reports to the federal government, accounting expenses, rent, computers, and phones. This is an estimate only. There is an increase in this line item due to an increase in staff and associated costs as listed above.

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Staff Travel (\$8,500): These funds will be used to cover travel expenses associated with mandated attendance at the National CBCAP meeting, the Grant Manager and/or staff attending the National Alliance of Children's Trust Funds' Annual Meeting, and for other conferences, collaborative meetings and workshops. This includes funds for program site visit travel as well as travel to build and maintain child abuse and neglect prevention partnerships and collaborations as needed with the 8 tribes of Montana, 22 Best Beginnings Coalitions and early childhood education collaborations.

Annual Grantee's Meeting, Trainings and Evaluation (\$13,500): Every year the MT CTF holds an Annual 2-day Grantees' Training Meeting. Travel, meals, and lodging are covered as this is a mandatory meeting for all funded programs in Montana (estimated 30-35 attendees). Additional funds have been set aside for other trainings to be discussed at upcoming board meetings. A few training opportunities that have been brought to the table include, but are not limited to, sustainability/fundraising training, mindfulness training, and a Strengthening Families workshop. Participants are encouraged to invite parent leaders. Evaluation is important for the MT CTF to be able to show, through our data, that we are impacting families, increasing protective factors and decreasing child abuse and neglect in Montana. The MT CTF board members and staff are continually working to better assess and evaluate the MT CTF and our grantees. We are trying to establish new and more efficient measurement tools that can serve multiple purposes.

Strategic Planning (\$2,000): Each year the MT CTF hires an outside facilitator to assist in strategic planning.

Zero to Three (\$110,000): The MT CTF will utilize Zero to Three funds (State General) to provide a cultural adaptation of the Period of PURPLE Crying materials and training specific to American Indians in Montana. Afterwards, a master training will be held based on the cultural adaptation. Funds may also be utilized for travel to each reservation for relationship building with each individual tribe. Additionally, these funds will be utilized to meet the MT-DPHHS goals and objectives for prevention per the Montana Code Annotated.

Program Contracts (\$105,000 federal funds and \$125,000 special revenue funds): During the 2016-2017 state fiscal year the MT CTF will fund 7 new child abuse and neglect prevention programs at \$15,000 each. We estimate total funding for new projects to be \$105,000. An additional \$100,000 of State Special Funding will go toward renewing 4 Best Beginnings Coalition contracts. Another \$25,000 (up to 5 contracts valued at \$5,000 or less) will be allocated for other grants as determined by the board in 2016-2017. Renewals will be based on performance and outcomes from the previous cycle. We anticipate a total of 11 main contracts.

Program Staff/VISTA (\$44,000): This amount is allocated for the MT CTF Program Specialist/Technical Assistant position that was filled September 8, 2015. This position is a .75 position. Fiscal estimates this expenditure at \$40,000 including benefits. An additional \$4,000 (\$1,500 for training + \$2,500 for support) is included in this line item for the cost share of the AmeriCorps VISTA position that we have requested.

The CBCAP grant is supported by a 0.75 FTE position within the MT DPHHS. The costs and funding associated with this position are **not** included in the numbers listed above. This position

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

is allocated across the department to all programs that work with and are funded as child abuse and neglect prevention programs.

Board Administrative/Training/Travel (\$10,000): These funds are allocated for MT CTF administrative costs for board meeting expenses, board member travel, and miscellaneous costs. Additionally, the board will send at least three of the board members, depending on availability, to either the National Alliance for Children's Trust Funds' Annual Meeting or the Annual CBCAP meeting in order to gain a better understanding of the work we do and what is done on a national level.

Public Awareness Activities (\$25,000): In past years the MT CTF has allocated \$15,000 toward our annual income tax check-off campaign, which typically yields around \$42,000 in additional revenue. This year we have allocated \$25,000 to leverage with other organizations, community partners and sponsors across the state to build a year-round, multimedia campaign to raise awareness for the MT CTF and child abuse and neglect prevention. Funds will continue to be allocated to the MT CTF Income Tax Check-Off PSA, which runs from January through early April. Funding will be used to purchase brochures, posters, banners, and other awareness materials as needed throughout the year. The goal in Montana is to:

- Increase awareness of the Montana Children's Trust Fund.
- Increase private donations.
- Increase awareness of the protective factors.

Special Projects/Mini-grants (\$30,000): The MT CTF board has designated \$30,000 for statewide child abuse and neglect data collection activities and mini-grants to community organizations. We will continue that collaboration and utilize the data to build a statewide, data-informed plan to decrease child abuse and neglect. The priorities for mini-grants are to:

- Increase protective factors and decrease risk factors for child abuse and neglect.
- Increase community awareness pertaining to the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

VII. LEADERSHIP ROLE IN STATE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

COMBINED 2014-2015 REPORT AND 2016-2017 APPLICATION

The Montana Children's Trust Fund (MT CTF) is a leader and voice for primary and secondary prevention of child maltreatment by supporting a variety of family support programs statewide. The mission statement of the Montana Children's Trust Fund (MT CTF) is to prevent child abuse and neglect by supporting education, community initiatives and effective programs. We believe that Montana's children are the state's greatest assets. Today's children are the leaders of tomorrow. We hold their future in our hands and our future is in their hands.

As Montana's lead agency, the MT CTF, acting as a quasi-public entity, has a seven-member volunteer board appointed by the Governor for three-year terms. The Governor ensures that the Board represents the State's broad geographic diversity throughout Montana.

Montana Children's Trust Fund Board of Directors

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Billings, MT 59102
Clementinelord@gmail.com

Leslie "Les" Caye, Vice President
PO Box 278
Pablo, MT 59855
Stayred73@gmail.com

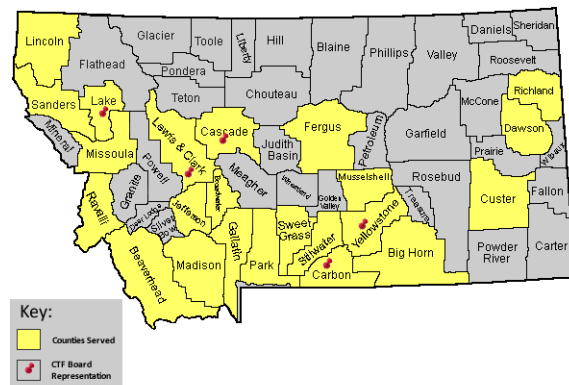
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Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

In 2014-2015 the MT CTF continued their dedication to building and strengthening new and existing collaborations and networks of partners to better leverage the resources we have in Montana. The MT CTF Strategic Plan is a fluid document to help guide us in our work to prevent, reduce and ultimately end child abuse and neglect in Montana. Our Strategic Plan was updated in 2013-2014 and again in 2014-2015 for the 2015-2016 FY cycle. The CTF Board plans to review and update the plan again in the winter of 2016-2017.

Our purpose

The Children's Trust Fund exists to change outcomes in all children ages zero to 18 to ensure the protective factors are in place.

Our Vision

Our Montana children, ages birth to 18 years:

- ~ Are born into and raised in safe, stable, nurturing environments; and*
- ~ Have parents/caregivers who have confidence in their parenting skills, and who know where to go for help.*

Our Montana communities:

- ~ Provide the training for parenting skills that people need and want;*
- ~ Have resource directories in place so families can access and apply for services in streamlined ways;*
- ~ Acknowledge the best practice parenting approaches and specifically know about and value the protective factors;*
- ~ Consider raising children a priority community and collective responsibility; and*
- ~ Learn from each other about the most effective approaches for parenting.*

In meeting the vision and goals of our strategic plan, the MT CTF will continue to work to strengthen child abuse and neglect prevention work and network in Montana. The MT CTF Annual Grantee's Meeting has and will again provide a range of trainings for increasing protective factors, decreasing risk factors, strengthening families, parent leadership development, strategic partnerships, database management, organizational capacity building, evaluations and nonprofit management. Some of these will be offered by the MT CTF through our strategic partners. Additionally, the MT CTF offers more tailored technical assistance on an as-needed basis in areas of resource development, parent leadership, outreach and communications, public awareness, board development and sustainability.

THE MT CTF PLAYS A CENTRAL ROLE IN THE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE STATE AND AT LOCAL LEVELS TO SUPPORT FAMILIES BY:

- Strategically creating and funding networks of community-based, primary and secondary, prevention-focused family resource and support programs.
- Raising awareness and building collaborations.
- Providing training, technical assistance and evaluation.
- Impacting child abuse and neglect public policy.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

LEADERSHIP: STRATEGIC FUNDING

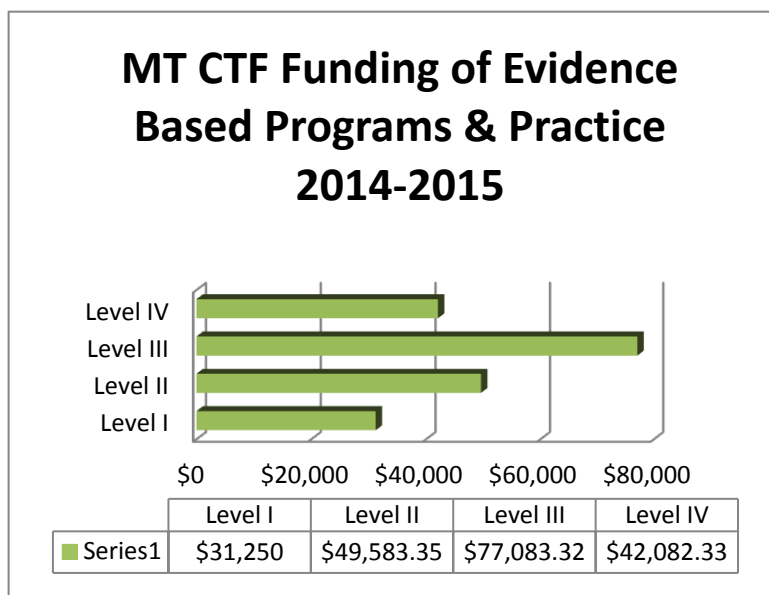
Over the last 31 years funding from the CBCAP Federal Grant, State Special Revenue and State General Fund accounts have helped the MT CTF build a statewide prevention network throughout Montana. The network is balanced across the state and, given the size of Montana and its rural nature, the MT CTF funds geographically diverse programs that are sensitive to the needs of the communities they serve, providing programs that seek to meet those needs and filling in where there are gaps in services to parents and families. Programs in rural and frontier areas have been innovative in finding ways to serve families in those areas.

Our target populations are all families and caregivers of children ages 0-18, especially those at risk for child maltreatment and neglect. The programs also serve families who may be or have been the subject of reports and investigations of child abuse and neglect but do not have an open or substantiated case and may be working a on voluntary treatment plan.

The programs funded in 2014-2015 used evidence-based and evidence-informed practices. The majority of the funded programs are at Levels II and III but also provide services at Levels I and IV. (Please see CBCAP STATE LEAD AGENCY EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 ON **PAGE 80.**) Below are some of the curricula utilized, including but not limited to:

- The Nurturing Parents Program
- Parents as Teachers
- Parenting Wisely
- Active Parenting including 1,2,3,4 Parents!
- Circle of Security
- Parents Anonymous
- Love and Logic

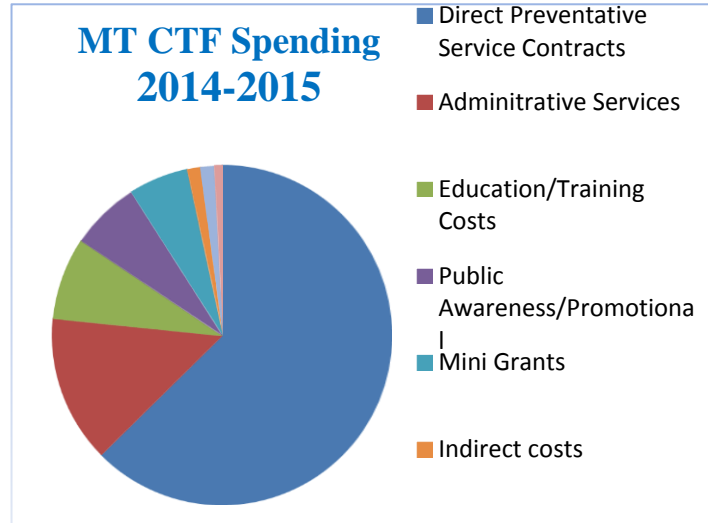
The MT CTF helped finance the start-up, maintenance, expansion, and/or redesign of specific family resource/support programs and community-based child abuse and neglect prevention program services (such as respite care services, child abuse and neglect prevention activities, disability services, mental health services, substance abuse treatment services, domestic violence services, housing services, transportation, adult education, home-visiting and other similar services) identified by the Inventory and Description of Current Services section required under Section 204 (a)(3) as an unmet need. The programs and services are integrated with the network of community-based family resource and support child abuse prevention programs.



Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The MT CTF helped fund specific public information activities that focused on the healthy and positive development of parents and children and the promotion of child abuse and neglect prevention activities, including child sexual abuse prevention.

The MT CTF funding comes from CBCAP Federal Funds, State Special Revenue Funds and State General Revenue Funds. These funds were used to support primary prevention programs and strategies which are available to all families, as well secondary prevention efforts which target children and families at risk for abuse or neglect. The goal is/was to promote the efficient use of funding by increasing the number of appropriate evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices successfully implemented and sustained with **fidelity**.



The MT CTF Board makes decisions regarding program selection and funding, design, evaluation and other matters requiring a decision. Contracts for child abuse and neglect prevention are negotiated between the MT CTF Board and community-based providers.

The MT CTF is administratively attached to the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), Director's Office for administrative purposes. Each spring, the State of Montana, Department of Administration and the MT CTF Board issues a Request for Proposals (RFP) statewide and/or a Request for Renewal Proposals (RFR). A copy of the most recent 2013-2014 RFP (used to initially fund 2014-2015 grantees) and the 2014-2015 Request For Renewal (RFR) are **attached**.

The MT CTF appropriates funds for developing, operating, expanding, and enhancing community-based, prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families with the goal of preventing child abuse and neglect (through networks where appropriate). The programs funded are accessible, effective, and culturally appropriate and build upon existing strengths of families and communities to help foster the development of a continuum of preventive services for children and families, including unaccompanied homeless youth, who:

- Offer assistance to families.
- Provide early, comprehensive support for parents.
- Promote the development of parenting skills, especially in young parents and parents with very young children.
- Increase family stability.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Improve family access to other formal and informal resources and opportunities for assistance available within communities, including access to such resources and opportunities for unaccompanied homeless youth.
- Support the additional needs of families with children with disabilities through respite care and other services.
- Demonstrate a commitment to involving parents in the planning and program implementation of the lead agency and entities carrying local programs funded under this Title, including meaningful involvement of parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and members of underrepresented and underserved groups.
- Provide referrals to early health and developmental services.
- Foster the development of a continuum of preventive services for children and families including unaccompanied homeless youth, through State and community-based collaborations and partnerships both public and private.
- Finance the start-up, maintenance, expansion, or redesign of specific family resource and support program community-based child abuse and neglect prevention program services (such as respite care services, child abuse and neglect prevention activities, disability services, mental health services, substance abuse treatment services, domestic violence services, housing services, transportation, adult education, home-visiting and other similar services) identified by the inventory and description of current services required under Section 204 (a)(3) as an unmet need, and integrated with the network of community-based family resource and support child abuse prevention programs to the extent practicable given funding levels and community priorities.
- Maximize funding through leveraging of funds for financing, planning, community mobilization, collaboration, assessment, information and referral, start up, training and technical assistance, information management and reporting, reporting and evaluation costs for establishing, operating or expanding community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect.
- Finance public information activities that focus on the healthy and positive development of parents and children and promotion of child abuse and neglect prevention activities.

The MT CTF continues to build upon its efforts from 2014-2015 to be a leader through strategic funding in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. In addition to the above efforts the MT CTF will be focusing part of its funding on systemic change by further strengthening coalitions and collaborations across the state. Specifically, we will be funding four Best Beginnings Community Coalitions (BBCCs) at the \$25,000 level. The **2015-2016 RFP** (year one of a three year cycle for funding) and the **2016-2017 Renewal Application** (For year 2 of 3 years of funding); used to determine funding are **attached**. The intent is to offer up to 3 years of funding for the grantees below and to expand the funding opportunities to others in the coming cycle. There are currently 22 active BBCCs across Montana.

The MT CTF funded BBCCs are: (Additional information on the funded programs can be found on **page 22** in EVIDENCED-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS.)

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Best Beginnings Early Childhood Community Coalition protected by the Northern Cheyenne Tribe (Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Cheyenne Nation - fiscal agent)
- The Gallatin Early Childhood Community Coalition (Great Gallatin United Way - fiscal agent)
- The Butte Community Council (BCC), Butte 4-C's
- Healthy Start Missoula, Best Beginnings Community Coalition (Missoula County - fiscal agent)

Beyond the funding through RFP's and Renewals, the MT CTF will also offer mini-grants to organizations and programs that meet our funding criteria during the 2016-2017 cycle. The full Montana Children's Trust Fund Mini-Grant Application is **attached**. All MT CTF mini-grant proposals must focus on prevention of child abuse and neglect and should not exceed \$5,000. The MT CTF's priorities are fulfilled by increasing the number of parents and caregivers who are educated in healthy, positive, and protective child-raising skills. By preventing child abuse and neglect, youth today are given stronger resources, support, and education that will help them become self-sustaining adults.

MT CTF Mini-grant Funding priorities to prevent child abuse and neglect:

- Community Awareness pertaining to the prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors for child abuse and neglect

MT CTF Mini-grant Guidelines:

1. Mini grants will be awarded up to and no more than \$5,000.
2. Mini grants will only be given to recognized non-profit organizations.
3. Priority will be given to those most in need and/or family oriented.
4. Mini grants usually will be awarded only for one time projects that do not require continual funding from the Montana Children's Trust Fund.
5. Other factors influencing Mini grant funding will be:
 - a. Purpose and need;
 - b. Target population, number and age group of people to be served;
 - c. Procedure and accountability to be followed;
 - d. Whether the Grantee has received Montana Children's Trust Fund grant funds previously (within the last three years);
 - e. Whether the Montana Children's Trust Fund is the only contributor to the proposed project;
 - f. How the balance of necessary funding is being raised; and
 - g. How the organization will report outcomes back to the Montana Children's Trust Fund on the project.

LEADERSHIP: BUILDING AWARENESS

The MT CTF took a lead role in promoting prevention of child abuse and neglect in 2014-2015. We continue to require all of our grantees to have a plan for public awareness to show how their

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

program intends to carry out activities at the community level to promote prevention services and educations. They are also required to coordinate and/or participate in observance of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. The MT CTF and all of our grantees provide public information activities that focus on the healthy, positive development of parents and children along with the promotion of child abuse and neglect prevention activities. Please see SECTION XV PLAN FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS ACTIVITIES of this report and application starting on **page 102** for a complete overview of the MT CTF awareness activities year round. This section includes:

- PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION AND KICKOFF
- GO BLUE DAY and BLUE SUNDAY
- STATEWIDE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (CAN) CONFERENCE
- COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
- NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE CAMPAIGN
- ANNUAL INCOME TAX CHECK-OFF PSA CAMPAIGN
- HALLOWEEN FUN FESTIVAL
- OTHER AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

LEADERSHIP: COLLABORATIONS

In 2014-2015 the MT CTF continued to building our collaborations and partnerships with traditional and non-traditional partners. The amount of collaborations and the impacts have grown tremendously; specifically, with community partners such as faith-based, civic organizations, media outlets, existing coalitions and businesses. The MT CTF focuses on community activities and public policies that prioritize strengthening families and communities to ensure child abuse and neglect never occur. This represents our efforts to ensure the healthy development of children statewide, while seeking to highlight the fact that we all play a role in raising children whether we are neighbors, teachers, police officers, librarians, mentors, coaches, or family members.

The MT CTF continues to advocate for children and recommend prevention be the number one public health concern. Abuse and neglect often have lifelong consequences for a child, including a greater chance of delinquency, criminal involvement, drug addiction, chronic health problems, mental health issues and an overall drop-off in productivity of the individual as a functioning member of our communities.

In doing so, we recognize the importance of our collaborations to leverage the limited resources of our state while pushing prevention to the forefront of conversations statewide. Please see SECTION IX. COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION starting on page 23 for more details on collaborations.

LEADERSHIP: PROVIDING TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVALUATION

The Montana Children's Trust Fund works to shape the direction of prevention in Montana through providing support, training, technical assistance and evaluation. In addition to the **ongoing** capacity building, technical assistance and support provided to the funded programs by the CTF staff; we require

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

quarterly reporting and evaluation to show how programs are faring throughout the grant cycle. This gives the CTF staff and board the opportunity to review the grantees work, ensure they are meeting their projected service outcomes, and provide them with any further technical assistance and capacity building as appropriate. Site visits are performed at least one time per year or more as needed by CTF staff and board members. This provides a further opportunity for evaluation and a hands-on assessment of programs; giving us an opportunity to talk through any issues, challenges, successes, and opportunities for sustainability, increased positive outcomes, etc.

Past and future trainings follow the parameters of:

- evaluation and data management
- capacity building and sustainability
- promoting protective factors and reducing risk factors
- prevention programs and family support
- fiscal leveraging, braiding and blending funding streams
- marketing, messaging and public awareness
- cultural competence, disproportionality
- collaboration and partnerships for prevention
- research on prevention and child maltreatment
- evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices
- bonding and attachment; resiliency; infant mental health; parent leadership; early child development; positive youth development; community and state resources; August reporting; centralized intake procedures; and peer review process

Some of the Training Opportunities offered to our grantees and partners in 2014-2015 include:

- MT CTF Annual Grantee Meeting/Training
- Child Abuse and Neglect Conference
- Montana Nonprofit Association Conference/Trainings
- The ACE Study Summit

In the **2016-2017 cycle**, the MT CTF will continue to shape the direction of prevention in Montana through providing support, training, and technical assistance to partners and grantees by continuing and increasing the efforts listed above.

As in the past, the MT CTF Annual Grantee's Meeting will provide a range of trainings for building protective factors, decreasing risk factors, strengthening families, parent leadership development, strategic partnerships, database management, organizational capacity building, and nonprofit management. In 2016-2017, as the budget allows, we will invite funded programs, Best Beginnings partners, former grantees, and tribal prevention programs as appropriate. Parent leaders are always encouraged to attend from all programs.

As opportunities arise for relevant and impactful training the MT CTF will offer scholarships, memberships, subscription opportunities as well as mini grant opportunities for more costly trainings, opportunities, etc.

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

For more information on our activities please see SECTION XIII. PLAN FOR SUPPORT, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVALUATION ASSISTANCE starting on **page 66**.

LEADERSHIP: PUBLIC POLICY

The MT CTF is known as a resource for child abuse and neglect prevention information. Our resources have been utilized by legislators and advocates to assist in defending against policies that would be harmful to families and for child abuse and neglect prevention. Additionally, we have provided resources that have been used to create positive public policies. The MT CTF coordinates with DPHHS to provide data for the creation of white papers and other data informed work that will help educate the public on important prevention and child abuse and neglect work.

Our work in public policy has prompted the board to re-evaluate our strategic plan; and to allocate resources to better collect, analyze and report data to help leaders more effectively make policy decisions and write legislation. Our goal is for our state to make data-informed decisions that positively impact children and families and to foster the development of a continuum of prevention services.

In the **2014-2015** cycle, the MT CTF board dedicated State Special Funds toward hosting an awareness event, messaging and public awareness for the benefits to children and families of early childhood education. Throughout Montana an effort is being made by a strong coalition of partners to increase awareness of the benefits.

Additionally, the MT CTF works with agencies, workgroups, advisory boards and others to create meaningful policies and procedures that we can use as a state to be more effective on our work separately and as a whole. We participate in strategic planning for a variety of groups, while many of our board members have dual roles as leaders, activists and directors for agencies, coalitions and other entities, such as: Best Beginnings, MIECHV, Office of Public Instruction, Montana Interagency Coordination Council (ICC) for State Prevention and others.

In 2013, the MT CTF led the collaborative effort to write Montana's Essentials of Childhood grant. Though we did not receive the funding from the grant, the process prompted the MT CTF board and staff to take a more significant role in strengthening the collaborative efforts of our traditional and nontraditional partners across the state. Exploring how we as a state can do more with our limited resources; we built an amazing team that continues to seek new ways to build and strengthen prevention activities and policies in our state.

The MT CTF's annual participation in Pinwheels for Prevention also represents efforts to change the way people think about prevention, focusing on community activities and public policies that prioritize prevention right from the start to make sure child abuse and neglect never occur. We hold our annual event at the Montana State Capital, where 1500+ pinwheels are displayed for a full week.

In **2016-2017** the MT CTF will continue pursuing our public policy efforts from the **2014-2015 cycle**. Additionally, the MT CTF will provide policy and decision makers with the findings and

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

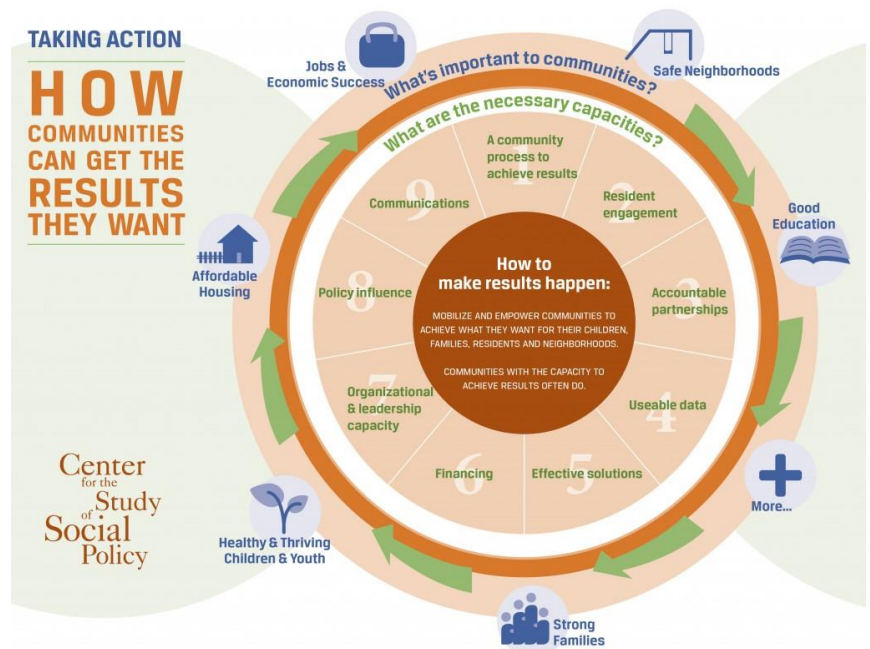
recommendations of the child sexual abuse prevention research project that was completed in conjunction with the University of Montana Spring 2015; as well as; trauma-informed care and Departmental/State funding as it applies to Montana becoming an ACES informed state. Plans are underway for a 2016-2017 Statewide Needs Assessment (paid for through MT State Special funds) in conjunction with Child and Family Services Epidemiology and the University of Montana.

VIII. ACTIONS TO ADVOCATE FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE

COMBINED 2014-2015 REPORT AND 2016-2017 APPLICATION

As the lead agency in Montana for preventing child abuse and neglect, the MT CTF continually works to create systemic change. Systemic change, by its definition, is a change of an entire system, not just a piece or two. The “system” of child abuse prevention is very broad and wide. To make a systemic change, we must change the way policy makers view child abuse prevention, reach out to schools, and engage all community members in prevention efforts. To make systematic change, the silos must be broken down and collaboration must happen. The MT CTF is making great strides at breaking down the silos and starting collaborations. The MT CTF board and staff will continue, with increased efforts, to create systemic changes in State policies, practices, procedures, and regulations to improve the delivery of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect.

The MT CTF focuses on community activities, public policies, research, data, and awareness that prioritize strengthening families and communities to ensure child abuse and neglect never occur. This represents our efforts to ensure the healthy development of children statewide, while seeking to highlight the fact that we all play a role in raising children whether we are caregivers, neighbors, teachers, police officers, librarians, mentors, coaches, or family members. The MT CTF will continue to be a leader and a voice for keeping children safe and families strong and strive to make prevention a priority at all levels from the State House to Main Street to dinner tables.



BECOMING A DATA-INFORMED STATE:

In 2013, the MT CTF began taking a more proactive leadership role in helping shape a statewide child abuse and neglect prevention strategy. Through a contract with the University of Montana and in collaboration with state and community agencies and entities, we produced a report to give a snapshot and recommendations for current data collection in Montana. The Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Data System's Evaluation (Final Report attached) was completed in June 2014 and paid for with our State Special Fund.

The overarching goal evaluation project was to identify the agencies and organizations collecting data on children and families across the state of Montana. Further, the project sought to understand the form and structure of these statewide data systems and to identify the current data linkages among agencies in regards to data sharing and data pooling.

Based upon these findings, the evaluation team had four major recommendations. First, it is recommended that the MT CTF advocate for the collection of primary data on children and families statewide. This advocacy can include reaching out to individual agencies statewide through the creation of policy and legislation to support statewide data collection. Second, the MT CTF can facilitate the creation of a statewide data steering committee to oversee and collaborate in data collection efforts. Third, this steering committee can work to identify current statewide data collection gaps and create a strategy for the collection of individual, family, and community level protective factor data. Finally, it is recommended that the MT CTF continue to develop collaborative relationships with each of the Tribal reservations across the state to partner in the process of data collection to support efforts to prevent adverse childhood experiences for Native children and families.

Plans currently are underway for a 2016-2017 Statewide Needs Assessment (paid for through MT CTF State Special funds) in conjunction with Child and Family Services Epidemiology Director and the University of Montana. Partners will include the MT Department of Justice, Montana Hospitals, and other relative state agencies and organizations that collect relevant data. The outcomes include but are not limited to:

- Determine gaps and opportunities of the state data collection and evaluation infrastructure
- Map risk factors with incidences of child abuse and neglect data



Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Incorporate national studies with community level data
- Create map of service providers for both prevention and intervention
- Identify and support other work and evaluations that are going on across MT
- Determine what the most prevalent types of abuse and neglect are in MT
- Determine what the risk factors for child abuse and neglect are in MT?
- Use data to make recommendations for best practices to most effectively reduce and eliminate child abuse and neglect in MT.

In 2014-2015 the MT CTF worked with FRIENDS NRC to adapt the Protective Factors Survey Database to more broadly meet the data collecting needs of prevention service providers across Montana. We established a broad committee of partners, both CTF grantees and non-grantees, to provide guidance and feedback on this project. The CTF continues to encourage grantees and other providers to utilize this great tool to effectively collect and evaluate data.

In the upcoming legislative sessions, the MT CTF will ensure that any information and data needed to push forward meaningful child abuse and neglect prevention is provided and available. We have built and are strengthening relationships with many entities across Montana to ensure a united front to defend against creation of policies and legislation that might be destructive to Montana families and child abuse and neglect prevention efforts.

COMMUNITY FOCUS:

The MT CTF focuses on community activities and public policies that prioritize strengthening families and communities to ensure child abuse and neglect never occur. This represents our efforts to ensure the healthy development of children statewide while seeking to highlight the fact that we all play a role in raising children whether we are neighbors, teachers, police officers, librarians, mentors, coaches, or family members.

The MT CTF has continues to partner with the 22 Best Beginning Early Childhood Community Coalitions (BBECCCs) and the Best Beginnings Statewide Advisory Council to help create systemic change and collective impact across Montana. The MT CTF funded five BBECCCs in 2015-2016 and renewed four of those grants for the 2016-2017 cycle. The Best Beginnings Councils have a great ability to make systemic change because there is a broad array of organizations; from business, to programs, to interfaith communities and beyond; that come to the table whom are all interested and devoted to the wellbeing on their community's children.

The Montana Children's Trust Fund continues to advocate for children and recommend prevention as the number one public health concern. Abuse and neglect often have lifelong consequences for a child including a greater chance of delinquency, criminal involvement, drug addiction, chronic health problems, mental health issues, and an overall drop-off in productivity of the individual as a functioning member of our communities. This is becoming more obvious as we look into Adverse Childhood Experiences Survey (ACES) findings.

The MT CTF is dedicated to assisting with the statewide effort to insure that Montana becomes an ACE-informed/Trauma-Informed state. In 2014-2015, the MT CTF provided multiple training opportunities to our board, staff, grantees and partners to become more knowledgeable of ACES and integrate ACES and

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

trauma-informed care into their work. It is the intent of the MT CTF to continue to support these efforts as opportunities are offered. These events have gained tremendous support and momentum from Educators, Legislators, Juvenile Justice, Head Start, Early Childhood Coalition, Youth Connections, Non-Profits, Mental Health Professionals and others all with the goal of elevating the wellbeing and future of Montana's children. We plan to integrate ACES and trauma-informed care into our upcoming Annual Grantees Meeting so that we can better disperse the knowledge of why these important data and techniques are so important to reducing and eliminating child abuse and neglect. We will invite the 22 Best Beginnings Community Coalitions to participate in our Annual Grantees Meeting to make the most of our efforts statewide, expand our collective networks, share resources, and build collaborations to become more effective with our limited resources.

In addition to continuing to fund the Best Beginnings Councils, the MT CTF is also increasing their tribal outreach efforts this year. The Tribal Nations in Montana have very different government, governance, laws, and how child abuse is handled. However, in order to create systemic change in our state, the Tribal Nations must be part of the change. This is why we are reaching out to each of the eight reservations in Montana to begin to establish relationships with the tribes. In May 2016, the Montana Children's Trust Fund flew three key tribal stakeholders from three different Montana reservations down to Utah to become Master Trainers in the Period of PURPLE Crying. These three tribal leaders will then lead a training for all tribal members in Bozeman, MT, June 13-14, 2016. This training is crucial to making systemic change on the reservations in relation to shaken baby syndrome. At this training, social workers, nurses, education directors, etc, will all be at the table. Since the tribal nations are run independently from most state programs and organizations, it is important that this is a grassroots effort, made by the people, for the people, and of the people. Without tailoring this program to make it culturally appropriate, systemic change cannot happen. We are just beginning our government to government relationships with the Tribes as directed by the MT DPHHS Director. In the process, we are making great strides in building strong collaborations with the stakeholders that play a role in supporting their communities and families to create a brighter future for the tribal communities both on and off the reservation and across Montana.

Trauma-informed practices, care, and education are infused into many programs within MT DPHHS including but not limited to: STARS to Quality (Quality Rating Improvement System for child care programs), Healthy Montana Families (evidence-based home visiting), Healthy Montana Teen Parent Program (HMTTP), and Project LAUNCH (Linking Action for Unmet Needs in Children's Health). Within these programs there are initiatives that support a one and two-generational approach and strategies to strengthen and build upon the DPHHS's and the MT CTF broader goals in addressing Shaken Baby/Abusive Head Trauma (MCA 50-16-103 and MCA 50-16-104.) In 2016-2017 the MT CTF is funding a project that will coordinate with the Public Health and Safety Division's Pregnancy Care Pilot Project, Emergency Medical Services for Pediatrics, and the Office of American Indian Health within MT DPHHS to provide trauma-informed care and education and Prevention of Shaken Baby/Abusive Head Trauma throughout the state including American Indian populations.

The Trauma-Informed Care and Prevention of Shaken Baby-Abusive Trauma in Montana project will strengthen the resources for early childhood educators by providing training, education, and system support in trauma-informed care and education intentionally focused on supporting infant

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

and toddler caregivers, home visitors, HMTTP case managers, and parents of children from birth to 3 years old. In the 2016-2017 year, approximately 35 individuals will be trained across Montana. This will include training on Shaken Baby/Abusive Trauma Prevention as well as trauma-informed care and ACEs for child care providers. Collaboration, within and outside of MT DPHHS, to achieve the proposed project goals, will be intentional. More information on this training can be found in XIII PLAN FOR SUPPORT TRAINING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVALUATION ASSISTANCE page 74.

Additionally in 2016-2017 the MT CTF will be sponsoring the Promising Pregnancy Care (PPC) *An introduction: Centering Pregnancy & Coming of the Blessing* which will provide trainings to organizations that provide prenatal care to our Native American families. The event will introduce PPC, a Medicaid and maternal child health program, which allows organizations the opportunity to develop their prenatal care program by blending Coming of the Blessing and Centering Pregnancy models into a prenatal care curriculum. Once the prenatal care curriculum is approved by participating organizations, they will be able to bill Medicaid for their prenatal care services.

A key component to making systematic change is community engagement. Without the support of community members, workers, and policy makers, long lasting systematic change cannot occur. The MT CTF has continued to increase our community engagement efforts in 2014-2015 and will continue to do so in the 2016-2017. This year, the Montana Children's Trust Fund was able to have a more statewide reach with our April efforts. Schools, businesses and organizations were engaged throughout the state. Through the expanding community engagement, the Montana Children's Trust Fund was able to raise a lot of awareness of the importance of child abuse prevention, and the roles that everyone plays in keeping children safe. Without widespread community awareness and engagement, there is not buy-in from the policy makers and key stakeholder who are instrumental in making systemic change happen. ALSO See SECTION XV PLAN FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS ACTIVITIES starting on page 102.

EVIDENCED-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PROGRAMS:

The MT CTF has made evidence-based and evidence-informed programs the priority. The MT CTF will maintain the priority of CBCAP total funding that supports evidence-based and evidence-informed child abuse prevention programs and practices. This policy will help foster a culture of continuous quality improvement by promoting ongoing evaluation and quality assurance activities across the MT CTF and their funded programs. (Please see CBCAP STATE LEAD AGENCY EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 on page 8.

In effort to create systemic change, the MT CTF, through the process of strategic planning in **2014-2015**, determined that it would redirect some of its funding to support five of the Early Childhood Community Coalitions (ECCC), known as Best Beginnings. This funding began in 2015-2016 and is projected to continue through FY 2017-2018. The Best Beginnings Advisory Council (BBAC) brings together representatives across early childhood systems to develop and implement a statewide plan for childhood services. There are currently 22 local coalitions across

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Montana that work to increase coordination in towns, counties, regions, and Native American Reservations. The local coalitions undertake community needs assessments; develop plans and priorities; provide professional development; build capacity, infrastructure, and communication; focus on sustainability; and support implementation of prevention programs. Activities are focused on identification, screening, and referrals to ensure that children and families receive the services they need and do not fall through the cracks. In collaboration with MIECHV, the BBAC and the ECCCs have been instrumental in bringing about the effort to make services more seamless for families, reducing duplication, and maximizing efficiency.

We believe that helping fund these efforts will enhance and help intensify the efforts across Montana to create strong systems of services that use public resources efficiently and meet families' needs more effectively. When supports are coordinated as part of an integrated family support system, duplication of services is minimized and appropriately targeted services are maximized, strengthening the life trajectory for children and families.

In **2016-2017**, the MT CTF will continue funding a geographically and programmatically diverse group of grantees based on funding proposals that utilize the various communities' needs assessments. The BBCCs have great potential to create systemic change at all levels of the community. **The MT CTF funded BBCCs are:**

- Best Beginnings Early Childhood Community Coalition protected by the Northern Cheyenne Tribe (Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Cheyenne Nation - fiscal agent): The Coalition was established in 2012 and currently has 22 partnerships/stakeholders bound through signed Memorandum Agreements and a Tribal Resolution. Their general committee meets monthly to discuss goals and objectives for the implementation of services. The Coalition has an active Steering Committee comprised of administrators from Tribal programs, schools, and organizations that meets monthly. The Coalition has four subcommittees: Family Spirit, Circle of Kinship Care, Drug Task Force, Drug Free Communities. The MT CTF is providing funding to support the "Family Spirit" evidence-based home visiting model, approved by the developers at John Hopkins Center for America Indian Health.
- Fort Peck Tribes (the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes) and Roosevelt County Best Beginnings Community Council: (Due to performance issues this coalition was funded in 2015-2016 only and will not be refunded for 2016-2017.) The Council was established in 2012, working with Fort Peck Tribes Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Program coordinating the community-wide effort for Fort Peck. The MT CTF is providing funding to support their continued effort in child abuse and neglect prevention by supporting the evidence-based Parents As Teachers Home Visiting Program; providing additional training to service providers on recognizing and responding appropriately to signs of child abuse; promoting awareness month activities; creating a map of available services for homeless and at risk teens and coordinating a health fair to connect them to existing resources; and to assist in coordinating and growing the council.
- The Gallatin Early Childhood Community Coalition (Great Gallatin United Way - fiscal agent): The Gallatin Early Childhood Community Coalition (ECCC) serves as the BBCC

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

for southwestern Montana and currently has 29 partners and participates with other community organizations on the Montana Project LAUNCH Initiative. There are 13 Gallatin ECCC Leadership members and 66 Program Committee members. The MT CTF funding will be used to support child abuse and neglect prevention services in the Gallatin Valley, promote public awareness of early childhood issues, collaborate with partners to support a continuum of services for homeless youth, and engage more parental involvement in Gallatin ECCC and Project Launch councils. Specifically, funding will help support the Parents As Teachers Home Visiting Program, Incredible Years Program, and the Pyramid Model.

- The Butte Community Council (BCC), Butte 4-C's: The BCC was formed from an informal school readiness work group and has evolved into a formal early childhood coalition recognized by the State of Montana and represented by 27 organizations and 39 individuals. The BCC has elected officers, a coordinator; has created a Children's Mental Health Committee (represented by 18 organizations and 41 individuals). The MT CTF is providing funding to support the implementation of the Circle of Parents evidence-based program in Butte/Silver Bow Counties, increase public awareness of prevention resources and activities, and promoting parent leadership activities. Additionally, BCC members will participate in the "Caring for our Homeless Community" group.
- Healthy Start Missoula (HSM), Best Beginnings Community Coalition (Missoula County - fiscal agent): HSM was formed under the Missoula Forum for Children and Youth in the 1990s and became Missoula County's local BBCC in 2011. HSM currently has 13 executive council members and 23 general members. The MT CTF funding will be used to expand respite care at The Parenting Place in Missoula, provide parent leadership workshops, and connect more at-risk families with appropriate supportive services.

IX. COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION

Collaborations and partnerships have had and will continue to have a major impact on the lives of families and children in Montana. Greater collaborations between early childhood systems have impacted policies, laws, and communities across Montana and within State Government. The CBCAP Lead Agency is impacting social media, social norms, policies, procedures, and practices across our State.

COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION REPORT 2014-2015:

The amount of collaboration and impact has continued to grow across Montana, specifically with community partners such as faith-based and civic organizations and businesses. The MT CTF focuses on community activities and public policies that prioritize strengthening families and communities to ensure child abuse and neglect never occur. This represents our efforts to ensure the healthy development of children statewide while seeking to highlight the fact that we all play a role in raising children no matter how you may make an impact on their lives.

The MT CTF continues to advocate for children and recommend prevention of child abuse and neglect to be the number one public health concern. Abuse and neglect often have lifelong

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

consequences for a child including a greater chance of delinquency, criminal involvement, drug addiction, chronic health problems, mental health issues, and an overall drop-off in productivity of the individual as a functioning member of our communities.

In doing so, we recognize the importance of our collaborations to leverage the limited resources of our state while pushing prevention to the forefront of conversations statewide. Our collaborative efforts included:

TASK FORCES/COMMITTEES:

- Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) - Goals include: Reduce child abuse and neglect by promoting child safety and healthy family functioning; Reduce youth violence and crime by promoting the safety of all citizens; and Reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases by promoting the concept that sexual activity, pregnancy and child rearing are serious responsibilities
- Montana Board of Crime Control - Conference Planning
- Montana Prevention Resource Center
- MT DPHHS, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD) - Strategic Prevention Enhancement Task Force Montana DPHHS (implement and improve an appropriate statewide system of prevention, treatment, care, and rehabilitation for Montanans with mental disorders or addictions to drugs or alcohol.)
- MT Department of Public Health and Human Services:
 - Early Childhood Services Program - childcare
 - The Best Beginnings Program
 - MT Healthy Teen Parent program
 - Suicide Prevention Program
 - Child and Family Services Division (CFSD)-(child maltreatment)
 - Maternal, Infant and Child Health- MIECHV Home Visiting
 - Head Start Collaboration Office
 - Emergency Medical Services for Children
- Department of Justice- Protect our Children Conference and the Children Justice Center
- Department of Transportation-funds the Parent Power Website
- Safe States Alliance- Montana Injury Prevention Program (MIPP)

The MT CTF is strategically administratively attached to the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Prevention Resource Center (PRC). The connection we have to DPHHS staff and resources helps us to maintain a visible and impactful role in the work the various state agencies perform and to plan for the past, present, and future. The MT CTF strives to include priorities from the PRC, CFSD, in-home services providers, Domestic Violence Shelter Programs, and Children's Justice Act grant parameters in our work. Examples include home visiting, Shaken Baby Prevention, and Differential Response.

AGENCY COLLABORATIONS INCLUDE:

- Montana DPHHS, Prevention Resource Center

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Montana Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC)
- Montana Early Head Start and Head Start Collaboration Office
- Montana Maternal, Infant and Children's Health
- Montana DPHHS Early Childhood Services Bureau
- Montana Department of Transportation
- Montana Board of Crime Control
- Montana Commission on Higher Education
- Montana Department of Corrections
- Montana Department of Justice
- Montana Children's Justice Bureau
- Montana Department of Labor and Industry
- Montana Department of Military Affairs
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
- Montana Office of Public Instruction
- Montana Department of Revenue
- Montana DPHHS, Child and Family Services Bureau
- Montana DPHHS, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD)
- State Advisory Council/Citizen Review Panel/Children's Justice Act Task Force;
- Montana Office of Indian Affairs
- Public Health and Safety Division
- Family and Community Health Bureau

NONPROFIT AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

- Best Beginnings Advisory Council
- Best Beginnings/Early Childhood Community Coordinating Councils (22 statewide)
- Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)
- Montana KIDS COUNT
- No Kid Hungry Montana
- Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC)
- Montana Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (MT DEC) Committee
- Montana Early Childhood Project (ECP)
- Montana State University's Department of Health and Human Development
- University of Montana Department of Social Work and Department of Education
- Montana Nonprofit Association
- Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies-MT Chapter
- The Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Abuse
- ChildWise/Intermountain Children's Home
- YMCA
- Prevent Child Abuse America-MT Chapter
- HOPA Mountain
- Helena Exchange Club
- Youth Connections
- Kiwanis Clubs
- Advancing Early Childhood Education Alliance(AECEA)
- Montana Community Foundation

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Various faith-based organizations, hospitals, and other nonprofit organizations
- Local and statewide businesses and media
- Law Enforcement Agencies
- Community-based programs
- Local Public Health Departments across the State

The MT CTF has taken a proactive leadership role in shaping a statewide child abuse and neglect prevention strategy. In 2013, the MT CTF board dedicated resources to produce an analysis on Child Abuse and Neglect Data Systems Evaluation completed by the University of Montana, Department of Social Work in collaboration with state and community agencies and entities. The subsequent report was completed in 2014 and is **attached**. The MT CTF will be again utilizing the partnerships create with the initial report to complete the 2016-2017 Statewide Needs Assessment. Please also see BECOMING A DATA-INFORMED STATE, a subsection of SECTION VIII. ACTIONS TO ADVOCATE FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE on **page 18**. Due to the quality of the collaborations and relationships that have been built we anticipate that 2016-2017 will lead to a more comprehensive evaluation of Montana's needs, gaps and opportunities to prevent child abuse and neglect.

INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL- GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL (ICC):

The Montana Children's Trust Fund Board Chair and the MT CTF State Lead are members and will continue to be members of the ICC. The Interagency Coordinating Council for State Prevention Programs (ICC) has 5 goals and corresponding benchmarks to guide its prevention efforts.

Goal 1 - Reduce child abuse and neglect by promoting child safety and healthy family functioning.

- Safely reduce the number of children in foster care.
- Reduce the maltreatment fatalities of children, aged 17 and under, to zero.

Goal 2 - Reduce youth use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs by promoting alternate activities and healthy lifestyles.

- By 2020, decrease the number of H.S. students who report using ATOD in the past 30 days by 10%.
- By 2020, decrease the percentage of students who use alcohol, cigarettes, and other drugs before the age of 13 by 10%.

Goal 3 - Reduce youth violence and crime by promoting the safety of all citizens.

- By 2020, reduce Juvenile Crimes against persons by 10%.
- By 2020, reduce physical fighting among 9th – 12th grade students to 28%.

Goal 4 – Increase the percentage of high school students who successfully transition (or graduate) from school to work, postsecondary education, training and/or military.

- By 2020, reduce the percentage of students who drop out of high school to 4%.
- By 2020, increase the percentage of the 9th grade class that completes high school to 86%.

Goal 5 - Reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases by promoting the concept that sexual activity, pregnancy and child rearing are serious responsibilities.

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- By the year 2020 increase the percentage of 15-19 year olds (9th-12th graders) who report never engaging in sexual intercourse to 60%.
- By the year 2020, reduce the pregnancy rate for 15-17 year old Montana females to 27.

The ICC is continuing its collaborative efforts and strategies to curb underage drinking and binge drinking across state agencies and then through the local levels. Emerging issues such as prescription drug abuse/misuse and marijuana use among youth are “bubbling” to the public agenda.

The Prevention Resource Center (PRC) Director participates in the state level Injury Prevention Coalition, the State Health Improvement Plan meetings, conference planning committee for the annual Crime Prevention Conference and is the point person for the Department's efforts in partnering with ChildWise, a local nonprofit, toward implementing the ACES Master Training across the state. The issues involving the shared risk and protective factors across similar programs and disciplines are essential to addressing child abuse and neglect in the state.

The ICC continues to promote and facilitate functional communication (using current lines of communication) among the involved agencies, departments and local entities throughout the State. The work group continues to meet 6-8 times per year. The website Parent Power <http://parentpower.mt.gov/> creates and sustains a coordinated, comprehensive system of prevention services in the State of Montana.

VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA (VISTA) PROGRAM:

Along with the MT CTF, the VISTA Program is also housed within the Prevention Resource Center (PRC) within the MT DPHHS Director's Office. The VISTA Program has provided the MT CTF with many resources and supports, as well as 3 years' worth of awareness efforts and capacity building by placing a VISTA member within the MT CTF. Much of the work listed in this REPORT and APPLICATION would not have been possible without our partnership with the VISTA Program and VISTA member placements.

BEST BEGINNINGS AND EARLY CHILDHOOD PARTNERSHIPS:

The MT CTF State Lead has been and will continue participating in the Best Beginnings Advisory Coalition (BBAC) Meetings. One of the MT CTF Board Members is the Early Childhood Bureau Chief and oversees the BBAC and activities. This collaboration and leveraging of resources will ensure that future work will be in collaboration for the families and children of Montana.

The mission of the Best Beginnings Early Childhood System is to improve long term school readiness outcomes for all children and families in Montana. The intent is to have a comprehensive, coordinated early childhood system that provides a governance structure and leads to strong collaboration in order to best meet the needs of Montana's youngest citizens.

Best Beginnings work is based on four goals:

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

1. Children have access to high quality Early Childhood Programs.
2. Families with young children are supported in their community.
3. Children have access to a medical home and health insurance.
4. Social, emotional, and mental health needs of young children and families are supported.

A key component of the Best Beginnings system is a community council. Communities develop a community council or formalize an existing community council to describe and discuss the early childhood system using the Best Beginnings goals as a framework. The community council, aided by a community coordinator, is where the foundational work happens. The council will be making crucial decisions about the network of services and resources available for the children and families of each community. The community council will adopt a collaborative approach to identify priorities and systems changes and decide how to move forward once the crucial decisions are made.

Using the community council, the Best Beginnings philosophy, and the collaborative approach, each community will be on the road to a comprehensive, coordinated early childhood system. They will be giving the children in their community "Best Beginnings". Staff members from the MT CTF funded programs are and will continue to be members of the Community Councils.

In addition to these efforts, the MT CTF will be focusing part of its funding (state special) on further strengthening coalitions and collaborations across the state. Specifically, we will be funding four Best Beginnings Community Coalitions (BBCCs) at the \$25,000 level. The 2015-2016 RFP used to determine funding is **attached**. The intent at this time is to offer up to 3 years of funding for the BBCC grantees and expand the funding opportunities to others in the coming cycle. There are currently 22 active BBCCs across Montana.

SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME/ABUSIVE HEAD TRAUMA PREVENTION AND THE PERIOD OF PURPLE CRYING:

It is the MT CTF's goal to make Montana PURPLE with the *Period of PURPLE Crying*. The MT CTF has continued working across the state to implement the *Period of PURPLE Crying* in every birthing hospital with Dose 1 and working at the community-level and grassroots-level to implement Dose 2 and 3. Implementing this curriculum/education is a basic systemic change that will help create a safer environment for infants in Montana.

The MT CTF will continue to fund Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS)/Abusive Head Trauma (AHT) prevention work to prevent infant abuse. By partnering with Master Trainers, tribal agencies, hospitals, home visiting programs, state agencies and others across Montana, we can help families in our communities understand this normal infant crying period, the frustration associated with it, and the knowledge to help get through it.

MATERNAL, INFANT, AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING PROGRAM (MIECHV):

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The MT CTF board and staff will continue to encourage participation of our grantees in MIECHV and assist in establishing and coordinating a referral system with other community partners. We will help coordinate language and the sharing of information. In **2016-2017**, we will continue to collaborate with MIECHV and to encourage our grantees and partners to blend and braid funding from MIECHV with MT CTF funds. There is discussion to co-host training opportunities for our grantees. Some collaborative strategies include providing:

- Structure
- Assessment
- Technical assistance
- Support on program quality, evaluation, and sustainability

MONTANA EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA MITIGATION TEAM (MECTMT): This team has been identified due to their experience and expertise in the fields of early childhood, trauma, adverse childhood experiences (the ACE study), the Attachment, Self-Regulation, and Competency (ARC) Framework, the Center on the Social Emotional Foundations of Early Learning (CSEFEL) Pyramid model, child abuse prevention, the Period of PURPLE crying, as well as specific work with vulnerable, marginalized, or at-risk populations.

TEAM:

- MT Children's Trust Fund
- Prevention Resource Center Director
- University of Montana - Institute for Educational Research and Service
- Intermountain - ChildWise Institute
- Department of Public Health & Human Services Division - Early Childhood Services Bureau, Head Start Collaboration Office, Child & Family Services Division.
- MT Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
- The Early Childhood Project - MT Pyramid Partnership
- Maternal, Infant, & Early Childhood Home Visiting Program

A comprehensive early childhood system intentionally focuses on infants and young children assuring health and developmental trajectories by fostering safe and nurturing relationships and mitigating toxic stress that would otherwise compromise future capacity to thrive.

The Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Trauma Mitigation Team assists in developing, implementing, and supporting a trauma-informed framework that will provide statewide guidance regarding the mitigation of toxic stress and trauma in infancy and early childhood. The **GOALS:**

1. Develop a process for educating a range of early childhood providers, care givers, families, and communities about the critical importance of human development during infancy and early childhood adverse childhood experiences, and the mitigation of toxic stress to achieve optimal child development.
2. Enhance state and local early childhood systems currently focused on trauma-informed systems.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

3. Develop a process of how to screen and monitor families and young children for adverse childhood experiences, family domestic violence and trauma risk.
4. To expand and coordinate networks of evidence-based/informed supports and treatment services for families identified with trauma or risk for trauma, including trauma-informed prevention programs, trauma-informed mental health therapies, and infant mental health treatments.
5. Train early childhood providers, care givers, families, and communities.
6. State and local early childhood systems provide informed guidance on domestic violence screening, strengthening infant mental health, attachment and early relationships.
7. All organizations have an evidenced-based screening/monitoring process for families to identify adverse childhood experiences, family domestic violence, and trauma risk.
8. Statewide information website/system.

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES STUDY (ACES):

As part of the ICC and ICC work group, the MT CTF has and will continue pushing forward in making Montana an ACE-informed state. We will continue to collaborate with ChildWise/Intermountain Children's Home, DPHHS, and others in ACE trainings, committees, planning sessions, campaigns, and awareness activities.

Montana DPHHS has granted \$65,000 to ChildWise/Intermountain to host a Master Trainer session for ACES. Please see Page 17 for more information on these activities in SECTION VIII. ACTIONS TO ADVOCATE FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE. The next steps are to raise awareness and educate the broader public health and human services community about ACES. Developing strategies to implement efforts on the state and local level has already begun. The Master Training has taken place and trainers are just beginning to schedule trainings. A state leadership training was just held and some of the Master Trainers were able to share what they have learned thus far. Through the Prevention Resource Center, the MT CTF State Lead will be involved in this process throughout.

Additionally, the MT CTF will continue to work closely with the MT DPHHS Director's Office regarding ACES as they move forward with training all staff on the ACEs study and moving toward using trauma informed approaches in the department's work. In early 2016, a qualitative analysis of the training feedback was prepared by an intern, and recommendations included:

- Creating a strategic plan with developing trauma-informed approaches
- Continue with further advanced training
- Developing an operating plan

MT DPHHS is looking at different resources to fund additional training, dedicated staff, and developing tools and materials to move these plans forward.

IN-HOME SERVICES PROGRAM:

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The MT CTF staff and the CFSD In-Home Services Program Manager will continue to coordinate and share information between the CBCAP and In-Home Services. The Montana's In-Home Services program serves families who have reports of child abuse and neglect allegations to Child Protective Services but, in many cases, have not entered foster care. The goal of this program is to try to keep at-risk children safely in their homes or to safely reunify them with their parents.

Coordination between the MT CTF and In-Home Services, the Division's Child Protection Specialists, and/or other professionals in the community is referring the target group of children and families who do not have a substantiated case of abuse or neglect to our network for preventative services (primarily parenting classes). Continuing collaboration and coordination will be very beneficial to the programs and the families they serve.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN (EMSC)/CHILD READY

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: As a member of this advisory committee, the MT CTF will continue to assist in planning and collaborations to help EMSC reduce the incidence of pediatric injury and illness in Montana and promote and advance excellence in the care of injured children.

Priorities and Strategies:

- Building more collaborations
- Optimize providing resources to patient
- Assessment of Existing Care Services
- Development of Pediatric System Components
- Data/Evaluation
- Continue to promote Health Literacy Trainings

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The MT CTF Request for Proposal for 2013-2014 (used to fund grantees in 2014-2015) and 2016-2017 included a section entitled: **Cooperating Organizations**. No single program or project can serve all the needs of a family. Programs benefit from fostering the development of a continuum of preventive services for children and families through State and community-based public and private partnerships. Identify collaborative partners and their services involved with your program or organization. What is the process for referrals in the community? What are the community's resources, and gaps in services?

Per the 2013-2014 and the 2016-2017 MT CTF RFPs, programs submitting requests for funding needed to include 3 Letters of Support from Cooperating Organizations/Community Partners. The programs also needed to include 2 letters of support from Consumers and/or Parents/Caregivers who have used their program in the community.

4.4.4 Parents'/Consumers' References. Offeror shall provide at least two (2) letters of support from parents/consumers that are currently using or have used services of the type proposed with the program in this RFP.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

4.4.5 Cooperating Organizations. The MT CTF goal is to have a comprehensive, coordinated system that provides governance structures and leads to strong collaborations in order to best meet the needs of Montana's youngest citizen and their families. The most effective way to meet the challenge of preventing child abuse and neglect is for all programs, both public and private, to work together in partnership with families and other disciplines such as social services, health and mental health, child care, respite care, early childhood, education, head starts, law enforcement, faith-based organizations (FBO) and other CBOs, fatherhood and healthy marriage programs, tribal social services, Indian Health Services and tribal Health Departments, and other appropriate advocacy groups in the community.

Programs must demonstrate cooperation, collaboration and support from community partners as a requirement of the application.

- a. Describe the process for referrals in the community.
- b. Provide at least 2 letters of support from community partners.

In **the past 3 years** the MT CTF has become more engaged in collaborative efforts and collective impact. We have been involved with the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) movement and survey. Board and staff participated in trainings and events focused on what we as a society, community and individuals can do to decrease ACE risk factors. Seeing the importance of increasing ACE awareness in Montana the MT CTF offers mini grants to direct service providers to attend conferences and workshops across the state to help them better serve their clients and meet their goals to increase positive outcomes for children and families.

Additionally, the MT CTF board provided funds for child abuse and neglect prevention advocates to attend the annual Great Beginnings, Great Families Conference, which provided workshops to support Montana's families, as well as, opportunities for networking. The annual conference is provided by a partnership between Best Beginnings, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, and Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visiting.

In 2013 the MT CTF worked diligently to form a statewide coalition to assist in writing the CDC's Essentials for Childhood grant. Though we were not funded we have continued to collaborate in state on a variety of activities and maintain open lines of communication with the CDC as a group to stay informed of resources and future funding opportunities related to the Essentials of Childhood. Members of this collaboration come together regularly to stay informed of activities and work on projects together.

Most recently the MT CTF, in partnership with the University of Montana Department of Social Work, completed a research project entitled "Primary Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) in Montana", **attached**.

Under the guidance and supervision of Dr. Bart Klika, a group of social work graduate students undertook a project to identify services and programs addressing the primary prevention of CSA in Montana. Primary prevention being "the prevention of sexually abusive acts through taking action prior to the occurrence of a sexual assault" (Centers for Disease, 2004).

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

There were mixed results from the survey. The first and primary finding is that there is very little being done for primary prevention of CSA. Of the 20 agencies or organizations that responded, eight stated they engaged in primary prevention efforts, eight engage in secondary prevention, and 10 engage in tertiary prevention. Multiple agencies said they would be interested and willing to address CSA from a primary prevention standpoint if there was available funding and if agencies could work collaboratively to implement these efforts, statewide.

Secondly, across the state, there does not appear to be a clear consensus or understanding within agencies of what constitutes as primary prevention. Many of the programs are reactionary, helping those who have been victimized after CSA has occurred, but indicate they engage in primary prevention by educating individuals and their families who have already experienced CSA. Other organizations state that by using certain language, such as person first, within the agency that this would be considered primary prevention.

Lastly, several of the agencies state that they address CSA through their mandatory reporting and background check policies. These policies are important to ensure that the individuals working at the agency understand their responsibilities in regards to CSA. However, these approaches deal with CSA after abuse has occurred and are considered to be secondary and tertiary prevention.

The single biggest need identified by this study is for communities to start talking about the problem of CSA more frequently and openly. While school-based programs focused on teaching children are not always effective, they do serve a useful purpose and have a role in combatting CSA. The problem is that this is often the only step being taken. Education also needs to be available to teachers, professionals, parents, and guardians. Parents need to feel comfortable talking about CSA with their children, neighbors, and other community members. Caregivers need to be able to identify risky situations and take the necessary steps to ensure that those children are not victimized. Community members who are at higher risk of perpetrating CSA need the ability to self-report and seek help without fearing negative consequences to themselves or their families. Combining these efforts in communities could have a profound impact on the rates of CSA while also setting the stage for more effective secondary and tertiary prevention methods and healthier communities, in general.

The MT CTF board will take this report into consideration as they move forward with their strategic planning in the 2016-2017 cycle.

COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION: APPLICATION 2016-2017:

The MT CTF will continue to build new and strengthen existing collaborations and partnerships in order to enhance and strengthen the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect in Montana. The MT CTF State Lead will continue with all current collaboration efforts and will strive to build new partnerships.

Additionally, with support from the MT CTF board, partners and communities we have begun to create new funding streams (private and public) to support our collective and collaborative efforts. We anticipate much growth in the 2016-2017 cycle. Some plans are being made to

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

combine trainings and meeting to pool our resources with MIRCHV, Early Childhood Services, HeadStart and others to build upon our collaborations and collective impact but also to be able to bring a higher level of trainings to our grantees and direct service providers across Montana.

A number of projects are on the horizon for 2016-2017. Some of these projects include:

➤ Trauma Informed Care Training:

The Trauma-Informed Care and Prevention of Shaken Baby-Abusive Trauma in Montana project will strengthen the resources for early childhood educators by providing training, education, and system support in trauma informed care and education intentionally focused on supporting infant and toddler caregivers, home visitors, HMTTP case managers, and parents of children from birth to 3 years old. In 2016-2017, approximately 35 individuals will be trained across Montana. This will include training on Shaken Baby/Abusive Trauma Prevention as well as trauma-informed care and ACEs for child care providers. Collaboration, within and outside of MT DPHHS, to achieve the proposed project goals, will be intentional. More information on this training can be found in Section/Page Training.

➤ Promising Pregnancy Care (PPC):

The goal of the PPC event is to provide trainings to organizations that provide prenatal care to our Native American families. The event will also introduce PPC, a Medicaid and maternal child health program, which allows organizations the opportunity to develop their prenatal care program by blending Coming of the Blessing and Centering Pregnancy models into a prenatal care curriculum. There are currently two entities that are moving forward with their Promising Pregnancy Care prenatal curriculum: the Blackfeet Tribal Health and Trinity Hospital in Wolf Point.

➤ Tribal Relations and The Period of PURPLE Crying:

The MT CTF took three tribal members to the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome to become Period of PURPLE Crying Master Trainers. The three Master Trainers are Serene SunChild (Rocky Boy), Erna Granbois (Fort Peck), and Jody Jones (Confederated Salish Kootenai). The Master Trainers will help facilitate a Period of PURPLE Tribal Training in Bozeman, MT on June 13-14, 2016. This training is for any tribal member who works with families and would like to bring this shaken baby prevention program back to their community. This is a grassroots effort to implement this program in the Montana Tribal communities. It is crucial that this program is implemented in a culturally competent manner and is done "by the people, for the people, and of the people." It will be the jumping off point for more implementation and partnerships for 2016-2017 and beyond.

➤ Awareness Activities:

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The Montana Children's Trust Fund will continue expanding our awareness efforts, making our work well known throughout the state. The major awareness efforts of the Montana Children's Trust Fund include:

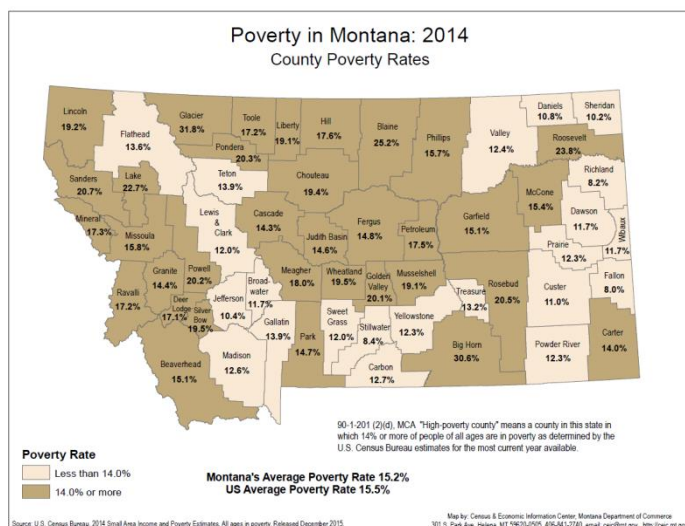
- **Halloween Fun Fest:** This annual event started as a safe alternative to trick-or-treating for the Helena community. It has grown each year to become not only a fun carnival for the kids, but also a great family resource fair for parents. In 2015, 15 community businesses and organizations hosted game tables and brought information on their resources for parents to help prevent child abuse and neglect. We anticipate passing the Helena event off to the Early Childhood Coalition and intend to help other coalitions across the state create similar events in the 2016-2017 cycle and beyond.
- **Child Abuse Prevention Month:** During April, the Montana Children's Trust Fund hosts a variety of public awareness events and campaigns. The statewide reach of these campaigns has increase each year. In 2016, schools and organizations throughout the state were engaged in our efforts and helped spread awareness. In Helena, the first annual Family Resource Fair was hosted this year. This family resource fair brought 16 local community resources to the Capitol, where over 300 parents and children received information on the services. The CTF started a #GoBlue Mondays, which encouraged people from all over the state to wear blue every Monday in April to show their support for child abuse prevention.
- **Children's Trust Fund PSA:** The CTF partnered with the Montana Television Network to create a PSA for the CTF. The Montana Television Network started to run this PSA in April, and will continue to run it through September, 2016.
- **Not Even For a Minute Campaign:** This campaign reminds parents to never leave their children in a car, not even for a minute. Posters have been created and disbursed throughout the state. The CTF will continue to disburse these posters every summer.
- **Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Cards:** The CTF has created a "Take a Break, Never Shake" magnet and rack cards. These cards will be disrupted to organizations throughout the state to remind parents that when babies are crying, "take a break, never shake." Spanish copies are available. All materials are accessible online.

X. PREVENTION SERVICE ARRAY, NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND CRITERIA FOR FUNDED PROGRAMS

COMBINED 2014-2015 REPORT AND 2016-2017 APPLICATION

ASSESSING THE UNMET NEEDS IN MONTANA:

The MT CTF is acutely aware of the ever growing need for services in Montana. Given the rural and frontier nature of all of Montana, our populations can face some unique challenges such as lack of transportation, easily accessible services, poverty, food insecurity, substance abuse, etc. The MT CTF requires that all grantees evaluate their community based needs based on their most current community needs assessment, state data and other resources. The MT CTF board and staff review and utilize this and other information to ensure that programs are filling gaps and providing resources and referrals to meet other needs to ensure families are strong. The MT CTF works to ensure that our grantees have whole family and whole community care in mind as they provide direct preventative services to their clients.



100% of the federal poverty level. While our limited resources cannot reach all of Montana at this time, the MT CTF does it's very best to collaborate with other organizations and entities to assess the unmet needs of our state and collectively plan for the future, leveraging funds and resources and creating a strategy to better serve our state.

In FY 2014, the average TANF case load was 3067 per month. Of the 3067, 1352 were child only cases accounting for 44% of the overall caseload, slightly higher than the previous 6 year average of 39%, and below the 2010 national average of 46%. Additionally, in SFY 2014, Montana provided cash assistance to an average of 7386 recipients (adults and children) per

Montana Child Data and Policy Overview

DEMOGRAPHICS	State
Total population	990,785
Child population (ages 0-17)	223,050
Estimated number of 4-year olds ¹	12,553
Single-parent families ²	30%

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING	State
Unemployment rate ³	5.6%
Median household income	\$45,456
Children in poverty (<100% FPL) ⁴	19%
Families w/high housing cost burden ⁵	30%

EDUCATION	State
Preschool-aged children NOT enrolled in public or private school	59%
Children enrolled in grades K-12th (2013-2014 school year) ⁶	142,689
High school dropout rate (2012-2013 school year) ⁷	3.6%
Enrolled students who participate in free/reduced-price lunch program (2014) ⁸	44%

HEALTH	State
Children without health insurance	12%
Traffic crash fatalities and incapacitating injuries ⁹	1,332
High school students who have been binge drinking during the past 30 days ¹⁰	24%
High school students who seriously considered suicide during past 12 months ¹¹	17%

The best way to ensure that children get ahead
is to make sure that they never fall behind.

Sources: Data source is the 2008-2012 American Community Survey, unless otherwise noted.
¹ 2013 Annual Population Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
² 2013, Montana Department of Labor & Industry
³ Montana Office of Public Instruction
⁴ U.S. Census Bureau
⁵ U.S. Census Bureau
⁶ 2013, Montana Department of Transportation
⁷ 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, OH
⁸ 2013, Montana Department of Education
⁹ 2013, Montana Department of Transportation
¹⁰ 2013, Montana Department of Education
¹¹ 2013, Montana Department of Education

www.montanakidscount.org



As shown in the map and chart (based on data from U.S. Census Bureau and Montana KIDS COUNT 2014 Data Book), most of Montana's 56 counties have a significant portion of the population living on incomes less than

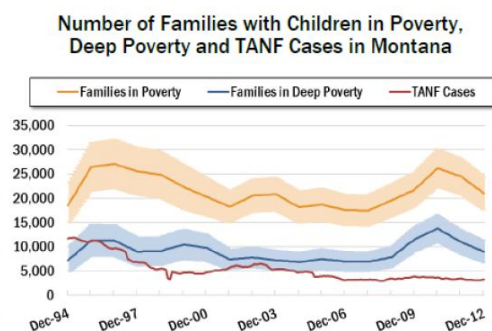
Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

month. Of the 7386, 4616 were American Indians with 2856 residing on a reservation. The majority of TANF cash households have zero income at application. A household of 3 with zero income would receive the maximum cash benefit of \$510 per month while engaging in activities that assist them in overcoming barriers to employment and/or gain the education and skills to become employed. Since the TANF block grant was authorized in 1996, funding for the program has remained level and, taking into account inflation rates, the value of the cash assistance to participants has decreased by more than 20% in most states, including Montana. To make tough funding decisions and help those who might be at the highest risk for child abuse and neglect, the MT CTF stays up to date on the latest data to better target our limited resources. We understand that being a caregiver can be challenging under the best of circumstances and hope that we can give caregivers the tools they need to better care for their children and make it through challenging times.

With income eligibility levels for cash assistance far below other safety net services, the TANF program has proven unresponsive to the economic realities of Montana families, with a sharp decrease in the number of families receiving cash benefits since 1994/1995 despite rising

TANF and Poverty Trends in Montana			
Families with children:	1994/95	2012/13	
... on AFDC/TANF	11,600	3,100	
... in Poverty	18,500	24,500	
State TANF to Poverty Ratio	63	13	
National TANF to Poverty Ratio	68	26	
	TANF Benefit level:	Share of FPL	Value change since '96
State benefit	\$510	31%	-22%

Beginning in 2006, this analysis uses TANF caseload data collected directly from state agencies rather than the official data reported by HHS in order to more consistently reflect the number of families receiving cash welfare in each state over time. Unlike the HHS data, these data include solely state-funded programs, and exclude worker supplement programs.



Deep Poverty refers to families below half the poverty line. Shading in graph shows the 90% confidence interval (lower and upper bound) of poverty estimates. Two years of Current Population Survey (CPS) data were merged to improve reliability. The TANF-to-poverty ratios are calculated by dividing the number of TANF cases by the number of families with children in poverty. On the graph above, Dec-12 represents merged CPS poverty data for calendar years 2012 and 2013.

numbers of families in poverty due the recent economic downturn. The Montana TANF program also serves fewer families in poverty than TANF programs in other states, with only 13% of families in poverty in Montana receiving TANF cash benefits versus 26% in the US. (See figures below)

In 2013, agencies of the Montana Food Bank Network served nearly 140,000 different clients over a total of 1.15 million visits. In a state of approximately one million individuals, this means nearly one in seven Montanans received food assistance through the Montana Food Bank Network.

The USDA reports that **20.9 percent of Montana's children struggle with hunger**. The *10 Step Plan to End Childhood Hunger in Montana 2010-2020* reports that 92,000 children in Montana experience hunger and lack of access to nutritious foods at various times each week and month. The plan was created by the Partnership to End Childhood Hunger, which is a collaboration of public and private entities that identified specific steps toward reducing childhood hunger in the state.

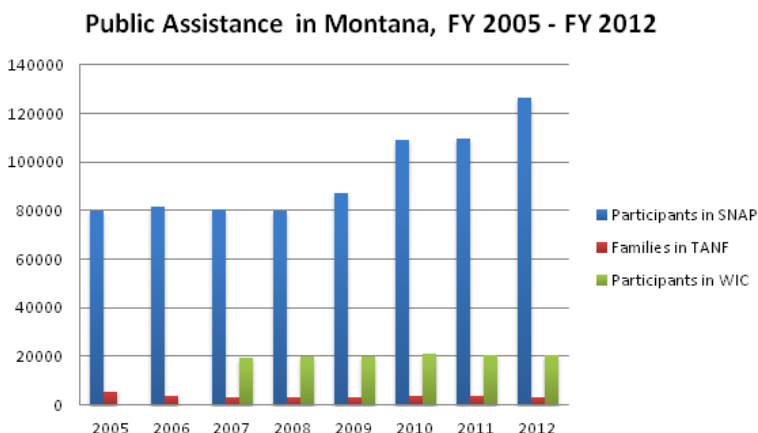
Food insecurity and hunger have long-term negative impacts on physical health and academic achievement, which can lead to poor economic indicators for the state. The Feeding America *Map the Meal Gap* report notes: "Good nutrition, particularly in the first three years of life, is

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

important in establishing a good foundation that has implications for a child's future physical and mental health, academic achievement, and economic productivity.”

National organizations such as the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) and Feeding America have documented the connection between poverty and hunger. The Montana Poverty Report Card for 2011 reported that in 2009, 142,000 Montanans were living in poverty, which is in alignment with Montana's food insecurity rate according to Feeding America's statistics.

The Montana TANF cash program administers approximately 3,000 grants per month, 44% of which are “child only”. 62% of recipients are American Indian.



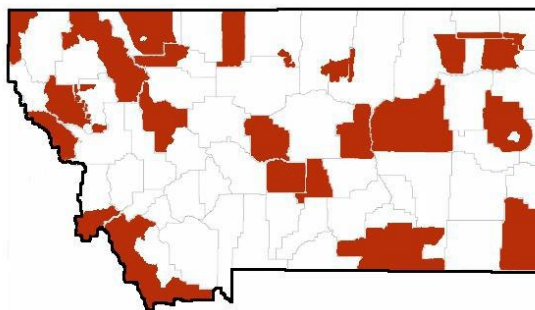
According to the Montana Food Security Council and Montana Food Bank Network, in 2011:

- 57% of Montana's children participated in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).
- 13% of Montanans received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. About 40% of those were children.
- 25,500 Montanans received Women Infants and Children (WIC) benefits. Montana WIC estimates that only 40% of those eligible are participating.

According to the USDA's definition, less than half of Montana's geographic area is considered a food desert. However, our assessment participants universally agreed that whether you live in a rural or urban area, the entire state of Montana can be perceived to be a food desert by certain demographic groups due to unique factors such as:

- Large, unpopulated geographic areas and rough terrain between communities. Montana is the fourth largest state in the nation and the seventh least populated with only 6.8 people per square mile.
- A prevalence of very small isolated communities with no grocery stores, schools, or food programs of any kind. Of the 56 counties in Montana, 46 are defined as Frontier.
- Harsh weather conditions. The state is known for long, cold, dark winters where freezing temperatures are common from the beginning of November through June.

USDA Food Desert Map for Montana



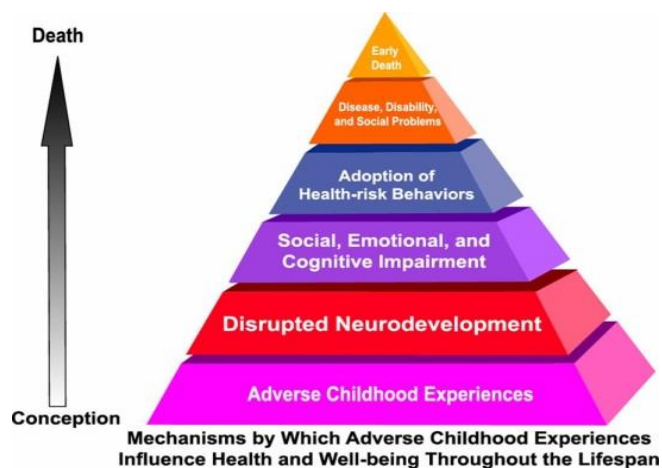
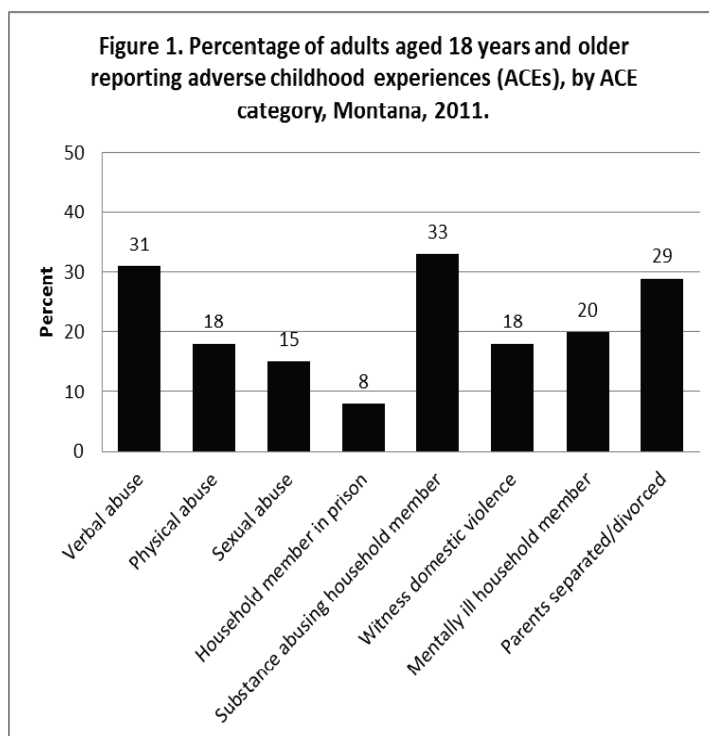
Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Sparse or inadequate public transportation in urban and rural areas.
- Extreme poverty and isolation on Indian Reservations. Tribal nations are diverse. Each tribe has unique cultures, languages, histories, and geographic conditions.

The phenomenon of childhood trauma is no stranger to Montana. A statistical survey instrument known as the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) has been conducted in Montana in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control since 1984. In 2012, the BRFSS included questions related to adverse childhood experiences for the first time. The survey was completed by 5,855 Montanans—and the results can easily be termed startling: 26% of the respondents reported experiencing three or more ACEs during childhood. More than one in ten admitted to having experienced more than five ACEs.

As striking as these numbers are, they might actually be underestimated because institutionalized adults were not included in the survey and respondents generally speaking might hesitate to report ACEs, especially the more egregious ones. In sum, a history of ACEs is not uncommon among adult Montanans. The most prevalent of adverse experiences reported were substance abuse in the household, verbal abuse, and parents who were either separated or divorced.



According to Child Trends, research has found that the highest levels of risk for negative outcomes are associated with having experienced multiple adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Nationally, a slight majority of children have not experienced any ACEs, but in 16 states more than half of

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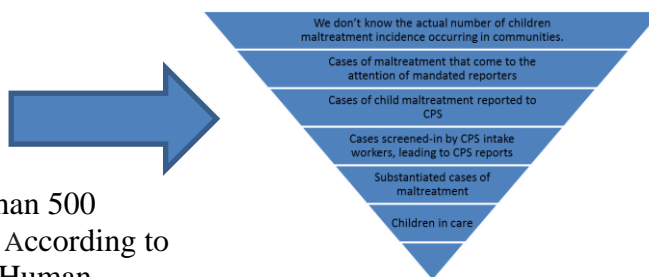
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

children have experienced at least one ACE. In Montana, 17 percent of children have experienced three or more ACEs. Some studies suggest that the experience of four or more ACEs is a threshold above which there is a particularly higher risk of negative physical and mental health outcomes. Prevalence at this threshold is highest in Oklahoma, **Montana**, and West Virginia, at 10 to 12 percent

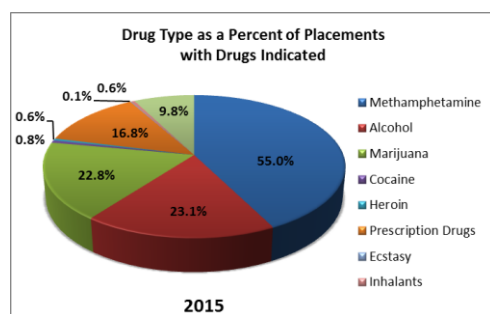
By far, the most common ACEs in all 50 states are economic hardship, and parental divorce or separation. Nationally, just over one in four children ages birth through 17 has experienced economic hardship somewhat or very often. In most states (45), living with a parent who has an alcohol- or drug-use problem is the third-most-prevalent ACE (national prevalence is about one in ten children).

Problems in estimating the incidence of child maltreatment:

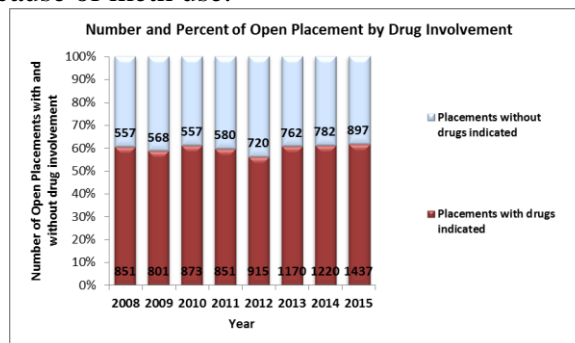
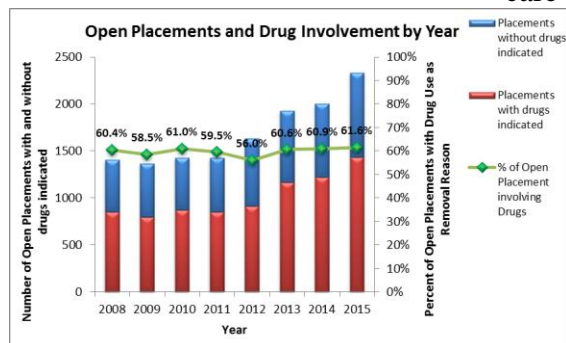
State Mandated services



Montana has seen an increase of more than 500 children in foster care since April 2015. According to the Montana Department of Health and Human Services, there were 2,718 children in foster care across Montana, a number that includes those in care as of Aug. 31, 2015. Since 2008 there has been a 75 percent increase in children in care which is amplified by a significant decrease in homes to support displaced children. As of 2015, there were 903 foster homes, 631 youth foster homes and 272 kinship homes, which place children in the care of a relative or other people with whom the child has a close relationship in state.



As for the rising number of children in foster care statewide, there's also no easy explanation, although one major factor is a rise in cases involving drug use, especially methamphetamine. According to CFS statistics, there were 851 Montana children placed in foster care whose cases involved drugs in the home in 2010, while there were 1,445 as of Sept. 4 in 2015. Of the 2010 cases, 230 involved meth. In 2015, there were 792 children in care because of meth use.



Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Per the MT CTF RFP: All funded programs must include a **Statement of Need:**

The Statement of Need must describe in detail the importance of the program, geographic location, target populations, and existing services that demonstrate the need for the identified project activities. Include statistical data from the last complete state fiscal year including total numbers of children and families served.

Address the following questions:

- a. Describe the needs and concerns in your demographic area.
- b. What are the separate elements of each?
- c. Describe the demographics of the communities within the defined service area.
- d. Is the program area a high risk area as defined by a needs assessment?
- e. Describe the local resources that exist in your demographic area.
- f. Describe the gaps between needs and available resources.
- g. Describe the consequences of the unaddressed need(s) or problem(s).
- h. Programs applying for the first year of funding need to provide the number of children and families served to date during the current program year if available.

Include a narrative describing the children and families served. Please provide unduplicated counts. Programs applying for the first year of a Children's Trust Fund Grant would need to provide the number of children and families served to date during the current program year.

Funded programs include information found in KIDS Count, other state needs assessments, and information from the child welfare agency annual report of child abuse statistics, etc. Programs applying for funds must provide a goals and objectives Section.

The **Goals and Objectives** section reads:

Realistic and clearly written program goals and objectives are essential in a high quality proposal.

- Describe the desired outcomes of the program and relate to the community needs. Objectives are specific, measurable statements of the outcomes expected from the program. Outline several specific, measurable indicators of how the program will attain the goals.
- Describe in detail each program activity and desired outcome for each.
- Describe the evidence base for each of the activities.

The MT CTF RFP uses the CBCAP Program Instructions as a guide. The **Methods Section** reads: The section describes how your program achieves the goals and objectives and how needs are addressed. The methods section is one of the largest sections of the grant proposal.

Also in the RFP is a section on **Evaluation:**

The evaluation serves as a guide for monitoring and modifying program activities. This section explains how the proposed objectives will be measured to determine if the program is

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

effectively and efficiently reaching the proposed goals and objectives. Include a description of the data that will be collected. Include a description of the number of the potential individuals and families served, noting and including if possible, families with children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, and the involvement of a diverse representation of families in the design, operation and evaluation of your program. Include examples of evaluation tools you will use.

Quarterly Reports: All funded programs must submit Quarterly Reports and a Final Report.

1.5.8 Quarterly Reports. Successful applicants will submit Quarterly Reports to the MT DPHHS Grant Manager on or before the due dates. Quarterly Reports are a qualitative evaluation component of the program and are an opportunity to share the progress and accomplishments of a program throughout the program year. Three quarterly reports and a Final Report are required annually. No more than 30 days after each quarter, successful applicants will submit a quarterly report designed and monitored by the State Liaison.

Attached is a copy of the 2013-2014 Montana Children's Trust Fund's RFP that was initially utilized to determine grantees and funding for the 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 cycles.

THE MT CTF HAS ADDRESSED THE UNMET NEEDS IDENTIFIED BY THE INVENTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES:

Per the MT CTF RFP: The MONTANA CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND BOARD ("MT CTF") is seeking contractors to provide primary and secondary child abuse and neglect prevention program and services. The purpose of the funding is to support community-based efforts to focus primarily on the prevention of child abuse and neglect; to fund programs to provide support to families in nurturing healthy children in safe environments; to strengthen a community's capacity building; and to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect by targeting the five protective factors.

Intent of the Request for Full Grant Proposals 2013-2014 (applies to 2014-2015):

The Goal of this RFP is to fund programs that provide child maltreatment prevention and strengthening families programs across the State of Montana. Programs may include:

- A. Local Community-Based Projects. Community-based programs and services designed to use demonstrated, evidence-based, or evidence-informed strategies with children and families in order to prevent child maltreatment and to strengthen families and communities. A \$15,000 maximum grant award is available for the Local Community Based Projects.

2.0 AUTHORITY

The RFP is issued under 18-4-304, Montana Code Annotated (MCA) and ARM 2.5.602. The RFP process is a procurement option allowing the award to be based on stated evaluation criteria. The RFP states the relative importance of all evaluation criteria.

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Following the **2010 Reauthorization of CAPTA, Title II**, the purposes of the Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) program are:

- 1) To support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, and enhance and, where appropriate, to network initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect;
- 2) To support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect (including respite care services, home visiting services and follow-up services);
- 3) To foster understanding, appreciation and knowledge of diverse populations in order to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.
- 4) To include services and develop a continuum of prevention services for unaccompanied homeless youth and those at risk of homelessness;
- 5) To involve parents in program planning and implementation;
- 6) To have the option to include support programs for substance abuse services; and
- 7) To have the option to provide domestic violence service programs for children and their non-abusing caregivers.

Families shall not be mandated or placed into programs funded by the MT CTF. Funded services must be entirely voluntary in nature.

The MT CTF RFP includes a section: **Who May Apply?** This section reads:

All local, non-profit agencies and community-based organizations that provide primary and secondary prevention services may apply for grants. The most effective way to meet the challenge of preventing child abuse and neglect is for all programs, both public and private, to work together in partnership with families and other disciplines such as:

- Social services
- Health and mental health
- Child care
- Respite care programs
- Early childhood
- Education
- Law enforcement
- Faith-based organizations (FBO)
- Other community-based organizations
- Fatherhood
- Healthy marriage programs
- Other appropriate advocacy groups in the community

The MT CTF Board Grant Review Committee, made up of Board members and the Grant Administrator review the RFPs each spring to determine the merit of programs asking for funding. The MT CTF Board uses the RFP as a guide for choosing the selected programs for funding.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The description of services offered by all or portions of the funded programs:

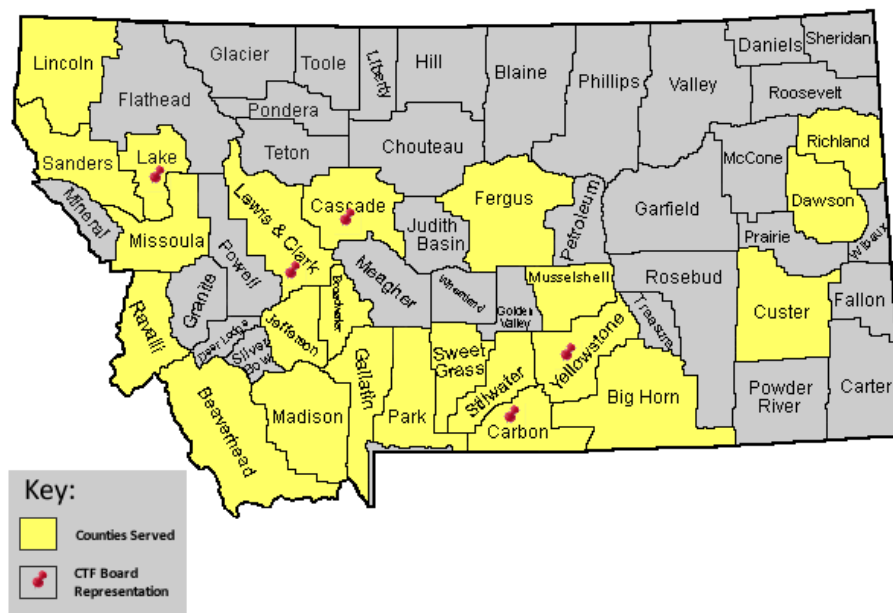
- Group-based parenting education and support services:
 - One-on-one parenting support and information
 - Quarterly parenting classes using Love and Logic curriculum
 - play groups for children and their parents
 - Resource libraries with computers, printers, and telephones
 - targeted programs for teen parents
 - Dad's Night and Gym day programs
 - Community resource and referral service centers
- Breast-feeding support
- Individual coaching
- Instruction in appropriate development expectations- Parent skill-building
- Family-based coaching
- Support group sessions
- CPR/First Aid classes, bicycle safety classes, and safe food handling
- Home Start Kindergarten Readiness
- ADD/ADHD Behavioral Management
- Home visits to provide opportunities to address safety issues including protective factors to prevent abuse and neglect, reducing risks of domestic violence, alcohol or other drug abuse, second hand smoke, and other inappropriate adult behaviors
- Parent education classes utilizing the Nurturing Skills Parenting Program
- Community and public awareness
- Parent Leadership activities
- Movement, role-playing, art, games, sharing food and other nurturing activities
- Child development education and appropriate discipline workshops
- Outreach services
- Anti-victimization/child safety
- Respite care
- Peer mentors to assist in the successful transitions
- Services to prevent generational abuse & neglect and future criminality by providing incarcerated parents and their extended families with parent education, social and emotional support, child development information; and long-term visiting services and respite care
- Literacy programs
- Social educational outlets for at-risk families with young children
- Community innovative projects with Parents as First Teachers Programs
- SOAR (Start Off and Read) program for new and first-time parents
- Cultural family events
- Respite care services
- Nutritional Education
- Life management skills training and stress management skill building
- "Warm lines"
- "Community capacity building opportunities
- Peer counseling and crisis interventions

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The Statewide Network established with the funding from CBCAP funding and State Special Revenue accounts have helped build a statewide prevention network throughout Montana. Funding directed to the Family Resource Centers targeted to specific programs and populations. The network balanced across the state, given the size of Montana and its rural nature. Each program is sensitive to the needs of the communities they serve and provide programs that seek to meet those needs and fill in where there are gaps in services to parents and families. Programs in rural and frontier areas have been innovative in finding ways to serve families in remote areas.

Below is a list of 2014-2015 funded programs. A short description of the programs and services follows each. The 2016-2017 programs will be similar in addition to the Best Beginnings Community Coalitions that we will be funding.

2014-2015 Grantees



BILLINGS, MT

FOREVER FAMILIES offers support to foster and adoptive parents with the goal of ensuring adoptions remain viable and adoption disruption does not occur resulting in the children returning to foster care. Forever Families hopes to increase awareness concerning the stresses related to and as sit in ensuring adoptive parents are thoroughly prepared and support. Forever Families provides post-adoptive services through support and education to families including respite events for parents, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, parent driven support groups, parent lead mentor program, training for parents, family fun activities, and a resource center. The MT CTF funds Forever Families' services in Yellowstone, Stillwater, Carbon, Sweet Grass, Big Horn, Fergus, and Musselshell Counties.

BILLINGS, MT

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK provides parenting classes combining an evidenced-based program, Nurturing Parenting Program, and Native American culture and traditions for families

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

in the Hardin and Crow Agency area. The MT CTF funds the Family Support Network's services in Big Horn County.

BOZEMAN/BELGRADE, MT

THRIVE established the Parent Place as a place for parents to receive parenting classes, support groups, resource library materials, home visiting, and community resource referrals. Parent Place offers Love and Logic and Parents as Teachers classes, "Dynamite Dads" support group, Thriving Babies, Thriving Tots, Thriving Kinders, Thriving Sixth Graders, one-on-one parenting consultations, and family activities.

DILLON, MT

THE WOMEN'S RESOURCE/COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTER (WRC) was established to prevent and eliminate domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking through direct services to victims and their children. Prevention and education groups include Girl's Group, Beaverhead Boy's Club, Circle of Security, and Suicide Prevention. The center also provides the "Strengthening Rural Families" program including parenting classes and outreach, counseling services, safe houses, legal advocacy, a 24-hour crisis hotline, and other victim advocacy help.

GLENDIVE, MT

THE NURTURING TREE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER provides a place to find information and resources on raising children from infancy through the teenage years. The Nurturing Tree offers a wide-variety of community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities to strengthen and support families such as Love and Logic parenting classes, support groups for young parents, self-help parent support groups, Nurturing Fathers programs, Grandparents raising Grandchildren support groups, youth development, social connections, home visits, and resource and referrals.

GREAT FALLS, MT

ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH connects community resources to and provides opportunities for children, families and teens to advance their healthy development. Parenting education programs offered by Alliance for Youth are Parenting Wisely and Circle of Security.

HELENA, MT

THE LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT helps provide parents with the knowledge and resources they need to make the first years of their child's life the best they can be. The Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department will utilize Year Round Parenting from the Heart parent education and support program. Other programs include Circle of Security parent education, Parents Anonymous parent support, and Parents As Teachers Home Visitation.

LIVINGSTON, MT

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERS/LEARNING PARTNERS FAMILY CENTER'S mission is to strengthen and support families in south central Montana. Services are aimed at enhancing and expanding services to meet the unique needs of families who began parenting as teenagers. The program offers Parents As Teachers home visits, Dialectical Behavioral Training,

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

parent classes, parent support groups, early childhood education, primary health care access, and a family resource center.

MILES CITY, MT

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DEAP) provides family education, support, childcare, health nutrition, home visiting, social activities, parent/child activities, respite care, parent leadership, resources and referrals, and residential services to families, children and adults. DEAP also holds a 6-week summer program for school age children with disabilities, which involves skill building, specialized services and community education, awareness and social/recreational experiences.

MISSOULA, MT

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, INC. creates opportunities that inspire and support women's development, leadership and choice, for the benefit of our entire community. WORD promotes the strengthening of support networks for families, family and community knowledge of child abuse prevention, and leadership abilities in parents and community leaders. This occurs through programs such as Futures, Families in Transition, and Mentors in Violence Prevention. The Parents as Leaders (PALS) project provides evidence-based programs including Love and Logic, Circle of Security, and The Right Question Project.

MISSOULA, MT

THE PARENTING PLACE supports parents and families, especially in the form of parenting skills training and coping skills during times of stress or crisis. The Parenting Place provides the Nurturing Program parenting classes, Parent Aide Home Visitation, respite care, parent leadership opportunities, family events, and resources and referrals. The MT CTF funds The Parenting Place's services in Missoula County.

THOMPSON FALLS, MT

SUNBURST COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION offers Circle of Security parenting classes and parent/child activities. Sunburst also provides a Family Concepts Home Visitor Program. Sunburst will be expanding to include parent support groups.

SIDNEY, MT

THE RICHLAND COUNTY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER, in accordance with the District II Alcohol and Drug Program, offers community-wide parenting classes using the Nurturing Program, 1,2,3,4, Parents!, Active Parenting of Teens, and Parenting Wisely. The Center also offers a resource and referral service. The ultimate goal is to foster positive family relationships by continuing to strengthen families in Richland County.

THE MT CTF DEMONSTRATES EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND EXPANSION OF COMMUNITY-BASED AND PREVENTION-FOCUSED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CBCAP PROGRAM.

The MT CTF contracted with all the programs listed in the above section for the 2014-2015 granting cycle. The MT CTF is a leader and voice for child abuse and neglect prevention programs statewide. The available funding was awarded for:

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

A) Local Community-based Programs (\$15,000.00 maximum grant award); and

Per the MT CTF RFP: Grant funds from the MT CTF must be used solely for the purpose of primary and secondary child abuse and/or neglect prevention services to residents of Montana and may not be expended for treatment or tertiary prevention. Families shall not be mandated or placed into programs funded by the MT CTF. Funded services must be entirely voluntary in nature.

The statewide network established with the funding from CBCAP funding and State Special Revenue accounts have helped build a statewide prevention network throughout Montana. Funding directed to the Family Resource Centers targeted to specific programs and populations. The network is balanced across the state, given the size of Montana and its rural nature. Each program is sensitive to the needs of the communities they serve and provide programs that seek to meet those needs and fill in where there are gaps in services to parents and families. Programs in rural areas have been innovative in finding ways to serve families in remote areas.

On the next page is a regional representation of the MT CTF funding and programs for the 2014-2015 grant cycle created by Melissa Lavinder, the MT CTF Program Specialist and VISTA Kami Kirchberg.

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017



Nurturing Children, Supporting
Communities, Strengthening Families

P.O. Box 4210 | Helena, MT 59604
406-444-3002 | Fax 406-444-1970
ChildrensTrust.mt.gov | Twitter | Facebook

Grant Funding by Region

Fiscal Year 2015

(July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015)

14 Prevention Grants

\$305,000

- ◆ Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Federal Grants \$195,000
- ◆ General Prevention Grant \$110,000

Since 2002, the **Children's Trust Fund** has allocated **over \$3 million** to **prevention programs** in **communities** throughout **Montana**.

North Western

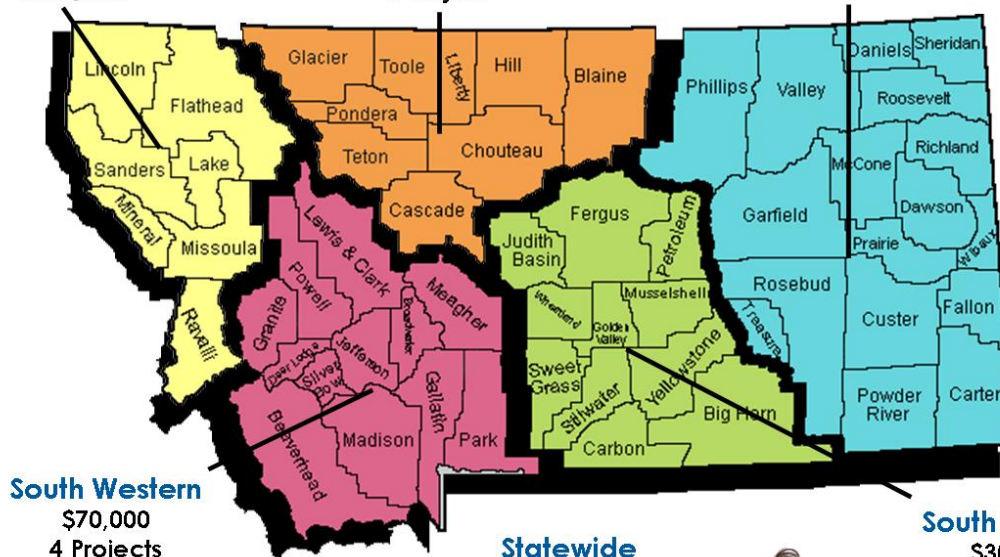
\$40,000.00
3 Projects

North Central

\$10,000
1 Project

Eastern

\$40,000.00
3 Projects



Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Grants Fiscal Year 2015

- Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Program (CBCAP) Grantees
- General Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Grantees

Total Funding Statewide **\$305,000**

North Western Region	\$40,000	South Central Region	\$30,000
The Parenting Place Missoula County <i>Respite Child Care Program</i>	\$15,000	Family Support Network Big Horn County <i>Triple P: Parent Leadership Approach Program</i>	\$15,000
Sunburst Community Services Foundation Sanders, Lincoln, Ravalli, & Lake Counties <i>Connecting with your Kids</i>	\$10,000	Forever Families Yellowstone, Stillwater, Carbon, Sweet Grass, Big Horn, Fergus, & Musselshell Counties <i>Foster & Post-adoptive Services</i>	\$15,000
WORD, Inc. Missoula & Ravalli Counties <i>Parents as Leaders</i>	\$15,000		
North Central Region	\$15,000	South Western Region	\$70,000
Alliance for Youth, Inc. Cascade County <i>Circle of Security & Parenting Wisely</i>	\$15,000	Community Health Partners Park County <i>Learning Partners</i>	\$25,000
		Lewis & Clark City County Health Department Lewis & Clark, Broadwater, & Jefferson Counties <i>Year Round Parenting From The Heart</i>	\$15,000
Eastern Region	\$40,000		
The Nurturing Tree Dawson County <i>Parent Resource Center</i>	\$15,000	Thrive Gallatin County <i>Parent Place Parents as Teachers Program</i>	\$15,000
Developmental Educational Assistance Program Custer County <i>DEAP Summer & School Year Program</i>	\$10,000	Women's Resource & Community Support Center Beaverhead & Madison Counties <i>Strengthening Rural Families</i>	\$15,000
District II Alcohol & Drug Program Richland County <i>Family Resource Center</i>	\$15,000		
		Statewide	\$110,000
		Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies - MT Period of PURPLE Crying Program	\$110,000

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

DESCRIPTION OF THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES SERVED:

The chart below reflects numbers provided by MT CTF grantees through their quarterly and final reports for contract dates July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015

REFERENCE QUARTERLY REPORTS

	CHILDREN	ADULT	TOTALS
PARENTING EDUCATION	510	795	1305
HOME VISITING	210	216	426
ANTI-VICTIMIZATION/SAFETY	63	132	195
COMMUNITY AWARENESS	1392	8435	9827
PARENT/CHILD ACTIVITY	1858	1303	3161
RESPIRE CARE	116	109	225
PARENT LEADERSHIP	1513	1333	2846
RESOURCE AND REFERRALS	220	756	976
FRC/GENERAL/MENTORING	36	52	88
TOTALS SERVED	5918	13131	19049
INDIVIDUALS W/DISABILITIES	776	275	1051

	Children	Adults	Total	Participants w/Disabilities	Veterans/Active Duty & Family
Participants in Direct Services **	4526	4696	9222	1051	168
Participants who received public awareness/education**	1392	8435	9827		
Total	5918	13131	19049		

**Chart: Participants with disabilities are included in these numbers and are also shown separately.

XI. OUTREACH ACTIVITIES FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

REPORT 2014-2015: OUTREACH ACTIVITIES FOR SPECIAL (UNDERSERVED) POPULATIONS

The MT CTF strives to include outreach for underserved populations ("special populations") and cultural competency in all efforts and in all areas of funding. We hosted an Outreach to Underserved Populations Panel during the 2015 Grantees Meeting. The panel brought four individuals and organizations to present on their efforts and experiences working with underserved populations. Each of the panelists explained their work and then grantees were able to ask follow up questions. The list of panelists can be found in section XIII PLAN FOR SUPPORT, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVALUATION ASSISTANCE on page 68.

In the 2013-2014 MT CTF RFP used for determining grantees 2014-2015 is attached. Programs are mandated to include a section on outreach. The **Outreach** section reads:

3.5.2 Public Awareness. Include Public Awareness as one of the goals and show through the objectives how the program intends to carry out activities at the community level to promote funded program services and the MT CTF.

3.5.3 Child Abuse Prevention Month. Describe the activities the program will coordinate or participate in observance of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Public information activities that focus on the healthy, positive development of parents and children along with the promotion of child abuse and neglect prevention activities may be included.

3.5.4 Developing a continuum of services for unaccompanied homeless youth and those at risk for being homeless. Describe how your program will work to serve this diverse population.

3.5.5 Parental involvement in program planning and evaluation. Describe how your program will accomplish Meaningful Parent Leadership.

QUALIFICATIONS: All local, non-profit agencies and community-based organizations that provide primary and secondary prevention services may apply for grants. The most effective way to meet the challenge of preventing child abuse and neglect is for all programs, both public and private, to work together in partnership with families and other disciplines such as social services, health and mental health, child care, respite care programs, early childhood, education, law enforcement, faith-based organizations (FBO) and other community-based organizations, fatherhood and healthy marriage programs, and other appropriate advocacy groups in the community and the faith-based community.

The MT CTF follows the mandates set forth in the reauthorization of the CAPTA, Title II. The MT CTF states the purposes of the CBCAP program are:

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- 1) To support community-based efforts to develop, operate, expand, and enhance and, where appropriate, to network, initiatives aimed at the prevention of child abuse and neglect;
- 2) To support networks of coordinated resources and activities to better strengthen and support families to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect; and
- 3) To foster understanding, appreciation and knowledge of diverse populations in order to effectively prevent and treat child abuse and neglect.
- 4) To have programs involve parents in program planning and implementation; and
- 5) Include among support programs substance abuse treatment services and domestic violence victims.

Also in the RFP is a section on Evaluation. The Section reads:

Evaluation: The evaluation serves as a guide for monitoring and modifying program activities.

3.7.1 Measurements. Explain the measurements of the proposed objectives to determine effectiveness and efficiency.

- a. Include a description of the proposed collected data.
- b. Include a description of the number of the potential individuals and families served.
- c. Where applicable include:
 - i. Families of children with disabilities.
 - ii. Parents with disabilities.
 - iii. Involvement of a diverse representation of families in the design, operation and evaluation of your program.
 - iv. Unaccompanied homeless youth or homeless families.
 - v. Former adult victims of domestic violence and/or child abuse or neglect.
 - vi. Include examples of evaluation tools utilized.

**EXAMPLES DESCRIBING OUTREACH EFFORTS TO SPECIAL POPULATIONS-
FROM 2014-2015 FUNDED PROGRAMS:**

ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH: We have attempted to reach at-risk populations by communicating with various agencies that are most likely to have contact with those families. Due to the high rate of child abuse and neglect in our community, we prioritize that high risk population. This year, we engaged with the YWCA women's shelter and successfully completed a class at their location. We also collaborated with Great Falls Housing Authority to provide flyers in their lobby as well as in their newsletter. We completed an educational presentation for a foster parent group for approximately 30 foster parents. We continue to participate on the Great Falls Early Childhood Coalition COS-P Subcommittee to collaborate on services. We initiated communication to the Early Head Start staff and provided flyers for them to hand out to parents. We initiated contact with Juvenile Probation to engage parents of youth in Nurturing Parenting. We communicated with Great Falls Public Schools to discuss presenting at the Principals' Meeting next Fall.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERS (CHP): CHP serves as a central location for many programs. This allows for seamless outreach to special populations. CHP's medical and dental clinic serves people living in poverty. All pre-natal patients and families with children under the age of 3 are visited by a PAT home visitor while in the exam room. CHP also employs several onsite mental health counselors. Counselors walk clients to the PAT office when appropriate. WIC sets up shop at CHP twice a month. PAT home visitors meet with every WIC client to offer services. TANF's WORC program is housed at CHP. We have formal Memorandums of Agreement with Park County's domestic violence prevention program, alcohol treatment center, tobacco prevention coalition, job service, food pantry, and local hospital. We made a concerted effort to reach out to the rural areas of Park County as well as the entire Meagher County. We contacted the Special Ed Co-op, child care centers the County Health Departments, clergy and libraries. Our most successful contacts were County Health nurses and the Meagher County Library.

DAWSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Our programs are all designed to meet the needs of our diverse and growing community. So when we offer an activity or event we do our best to cater to the needs of every person, including those with special needs. As always, our Mommy/Daddy and Me activities include, but are not limited to sign language and sensory play. We continue to use these tools as they assist those with special needs, and show no difference between patron with or without disabilities. We have also had positive feedback from caregivers regarding these strategies.

Our staff has received positive feedback from parents without special needs as well as parents of children with special needs. Another way we have updated our outreach was with the help of the library, as they updated the entrance of the building with handicap accessible buttons and doors. This made it easier for parents of multiple children with many bags/car seats/strollers to access the building as well as any person with a handicap. We are continually evaluating our programs to make sure they serve all participants and adjusting accordingly to meet everyone's needs to the best of our ability.

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DEAP): DEAP's CTF total grant funding is for activities with teens with disabilities and their parents. All services provided by DEAP are to special populations including children and adults with disabilities, children at risk of abuse & neglect, caregivers in need of respite services including the elderly, pregnant moms and infants & toddlers needing nutrition education and breastfeeding education, families in need of childcare options and/or assistance. Also, DEAP also provides Parents as Teachers services through the community early childhood collaborative.

Members of other underserved or underrepresented groups (i.e., Fathers)
Fathers of teens with disabilities are included in outreach activities although more are able to participate in the Monday evening activities than the day ones. Male direct support professionals are used to accompany the teens with disabilities for individualized support when engaged in challenging physical activities or because need behavioral support and intervention.

DISTRICT II ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM: The FRC Project Coordinator presented resources to numerous different groups throughout the community and has also used social

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

media as outreach to numerous different special populations at one time. An example would be presenting resources at Parent Café on bullying one month, and on changes in your teen and how to deal with them another.

One special population that was reached out to was parents who were divorcing. The FRC uses the Children in Between curriculum, which places emphasis on healthy home environments for families when the parents will no longer be married.

Other outreach done was to at-risk families who may be involved in the legal system. This was done through placing brochures at the County courthouse, and sending letters to the lawyers and judges in the county who may have clients that could benefit from the FRC's parenting programs.

Lastly, the FRC expanded its DVD collection at the library, since most resources checked out are DVD's. Topics that reach special populations include special needs children with Down Syndrome and Autism, families dealing with addiction and recovery, and families dealing with a loved one that has Alzheimer's disease.

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK: The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program project addresses families who are at-risk for abusing and neglecting their children based on factors such as poverty, inadequate housing, social isolation, low education level, domestic, substance, physical or sexual abuse, serious emotional or mental health issues, poor parenting and prenatal risk factors. These classes were offered to any parent/caregiver in the community who wanted to attend. As stated above, the families in this community are more likely to be at-risk due to the high rates of poverty and substance abuse. Weekly Activity Nights and Family Fun Nights were advertised in the Big Horn Briefs and on flyers hung throughout the communities of Crow Agency and Hardin. Flyers were posted at the hospital, public health nurse areas, Post Office, tribal administrative office building, HRDC, schools and other community locales. Many new participants heard about classes from a family member or a friend who had attended previously.

Additionally, the Parent Education Coordinator is always talking about the class to others and frequently invites participants from the community. The Family Fun Nights were also utilized to promote to the communities' activities provided by FSN and MT-CTF. Lastly, Family Support Network had a booth at the Wyola Health Fair in May and promoted the parenting classes and family fun nights offered through the Montana Children's Trust Fund Grant. Families that were interested in future classes wrote down their names and contact information so they can be notified when the classes are scheduled.

FOREVER FAMILIES: All of our programs and services provided by Forever Families are for all families built by adoption. 84% of children from these families have a mental illness, physical disability or learning disability. Given the fact that their birth parents have used drugs or alcohol and or are mentally ill or that the children are in the child protective system due to abuse or neglect these factors can hinder a child's development. Also a percentage of our adoptive parents who have adopted are disabled as well. A small percentage of our families are have a Veteran or two in them.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

LEWIS & CLARK CITY-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Our classes are supported by WIC, the Friendship Center, the YWCA, Child Protection Services, Public housing, Probation, and many others. We are known for our sensitivity to every family's unique concerns and we are also known for being able to find the strengths in those families and speak to them as equals. Using this approach with special populations for years creates a safe haven atmosphere and reputation that attracts the most fragile of populations.

Children and adults with disabilities: Our primary mission is to work with all Helena families and we walk the talk. Many agencies shy away from mentally ill parents. We create relationships and serve. We identify and serve children with emerging delays and secure early intervention. We currently serve disabled families with dignity. Agencies in the community are familiar with this inclusive approach and refer families from all special populations.

Homeless families and those at risk of homelessness: Poverty is what we work with every day. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs approach teaches to connect families with services to mitigate effects of eviction and to prevent homelessness. We refer to community services and continue to work with families through the spectrum of need until sustained housing is achieved.

Unaccompanied homeless youth: As a home visiting team, we are able to find couch surfers. We refer them to services and advocate for them. We work very closely with Florence Crittenden and Juvenile Probation to ensure they receive the services they need.

Adult former victims of child abuse and neglect or domestic violence: We have taken the lead in Lewis & Clark County to use the ACE study to help parents identify their trauma effects from childhood and offer concrete skills and experiences to work with those effects. Knowing one's ACE score is as important as monitoring blood pressure. The score is important to know for self-awareness. The message then becomes moving from post-traumatic stress to post-traumatic healing. We work closely with the Friendship Center and have offered classes at the shelter. We refer domestic violence victims and support those victims through the full spectrum of healing: the personal to knowledge of the system to rebuilding lives.

Members of other underserved or underrepresented groups (i.e., Fathers): Convinced the county health department to change the name of the home visiting program from "Maternal, Child Health" to "Family Child Health." Tell families this is for dads as well and only schedule when dad is available. Classes and support group is very evenly represented.

THE PARENTING PLACE: The Parenting Place did outreach to target families with children with special needs. We disseminated flyers to several organizations that work specifically with families who have children with special needs. Our outreach this year has been in the form of flyers, brochures and in-services to other programs. By educating other programs in our community about the benefits of respite, we have experienced an increase in appropriate referrals.

SUNBURST COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION: Special populations included young/new parents – in some cases teenaged parents. To help with outreach, flyers/parent letters were distributed at Best Beginnings Community Councils as well as with officials at high schools and programs specifically geared towards working with young or teenaged parents – or those who were expecting. Outreach in some cases also included providing information to

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

County Health Departments, Child and Family Services (for those families without a finding but working on a voluntary basis) and other service providers such as mental health. Additionally, there was outreach to those entities that regularly work with special populations such as those at risk in terms of child abuse/neglect and those without the means to pay for parent education services. Other service providers – such as DPHHS, WIC, Job Services and mental health providers – were provided information on the upcoming Circle of Security classes in many communities as well.

THRIVE: Our mission at Thrive is to support and strengthen all families in our community and help all children thrive. Therefore, services are available and marketed to all local families. Because we do not limit our services to one “type” of parents or family (i.e. those with disabilities or those at high-risk), we minimize the stigma associated with participation in our programs. This is an important factor at ensuring our programs (which are all voluntary) are well-utilized and meet the needs of all parents seeking support. That being said, in order to have the greatest impact, the Parent Place PAT intake process gives priority to parents facing one or more risk factors for child abuse and neglect. We also make sure that community partners serving children with disabilities or homeless families are aware of our services, so they can refer families facing these challenges that could benefit from additional support.

Thrive will continue to outreach to families with disabilities. We have put a great deal of effort in the past year into making our whole community aware of our programs and services. For example, last year we served eight families with deaf children, as word got out in this community about our helpful supports. Thrive will continue to leverage our close working relationship with our broad range of community partners to help provide appropriate referrals.

We have been involved in a lot of events designed to share information about local services and supports. The community has numerous resources available and works to create a supportive environment, based on the understanding that all families want to be successful.

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY & RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, INC.: By partnering with different agencies in the community, we have been able to increase our outreach to special populations. This year we offered 2 different class series at Teen Challenge, which is a residential program for women in addiction recovery. We also offered classes at Missoula Early Head Start, which serves low income families with young children. Summit Independent Living Center hosted our class on IEP meetings, and helped us promote the class to people in the community with disabilities.

We continue to work with partners and programs that serve homeless and at risk families, teen parent programs, Missoula Pre-release, family court lawyers, and residential programs for single mothers.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE/COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTER: In order to serve our clients to the best of our ability, the Resource Center works to ensure that all programs are inclusive and relevant. Furthermore, the Resource Center thoroughly trains all staff members and volunteers, addressing special needs populations and teaching cultural competence. Outreach to special populations was completed in a variety of ways. First and foremost, the Resource center

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

coordinated with several agencies within the community (medical professionals, office of public assistance, migrant council, churches, ect) to ensure that others were not only aware of our program but had a thorough understanding of what services were provided and why such services may be beneficial to the clientele served within their agency. To ensure that minority groups could be served, the Resource Center secured an agreement with the migrant council, guaranteeing that an interpreter would be available if and when needed. Those with disabilities were provided with accommodations if needed. All social gatherings allowed participants to interact with one another and were organized to specifically include individuals of all ages, ethnicities, socio-economic status, gender, ability, and marital status.

**APPLICATION 2016-2017: OUTREACH ACTIVITIES FOR SPECIAL
(UNDERSERVED) POPULATIONS**

In **2016-2017** the MT CTF will continue with an array of outreach activities as we have in past years. Activities as listed above will continue.

Per the MT CTF RFP:

“Program goals must also demonstrate a meaningful commitment to parent leadership, including parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, and racial and ethnic minorities; and to foster an understanding, appreciation, and knowledge of diverse populations and/or cultural competent practices in order to be effective in preventing and treating child abuse and neglect.”

3.5 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES. programs must include:

This section addresses the realistic and clearly written program goals and objectives and expected outcomes for families. State the project's goals and objectives in terms that lead to specific, measurable outcomes that are community specific and are reflective of the statement of need. Demonstrate that the program goals are consistent and include (but not limited to) the following:

3.5.1 Prevention. Describe the desired outcomes of the program and relate to the primary and secondary prevention of child abuse and neglect. Outline several specific, measurable indicators of how the program will attain the goals.

3.5.2 Public Awareness. Include Public Awareness as one of the goals and show through the objectives how the program intends to carry out activities at the community level to promote funded program services and the MT CTF.

3.5.3 Child Abuse Prevention Month. Describe the activities the program will coordinate or participate in observance of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Public information activities that focus on the healthy, positive development of parents and children along with the promotion of child abuse and neglect prevention activities may be included.

3.5.4 Developing a continuum of services for unaccompanied homeless youth and those at risk for being homeless. Describe how your program will work to serve these diverse

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

populations or how your program will collaborate in your community to help address this issue.

3.5.5 Parental involvement in program planning and evaluation. Describe how your program will accomplish meaningful Parent Leadership. Parent Leadership occurs when parents address the challenges of parenting, gain the knowledge and skills to function in meaningful leadership roles and represent a "parent voice" to help shape the direction of their families, programs and communities. Shared Leadership is successfully achieved when Parents Leaders and professionals build effective partnerships and share responsibility, expertise and leadership in decisions being made that affect families and communities.

3.7.1 Measurements. Explain the measurements of the proposed objectives to determine effectiveness and efficiency.

- d. Include a description of the proposed collected data.
- e. Include a description of the number of the potential individuals and families served.
- f. Where applicable include:
 - i. Families of children with disabilities.
 - ii. Parents with disabilities.
 - iii. Involvement of a diverse representation of families in the design, operation and evaluation of your program.
 - iv. Unaccompanied homeless youth or homeless families.
 - v. Former adult victims of domestic violence and/or child abuse or neglect.
 - vi. Include examples of evaluation tools utilized.

The MT CTF will also work to increase our network to include at least one contact per county and/or community who knows what services are available in their area. Due to the rural and frontier nature of Montana, it is a challenge in many small communities to direct people to services. Often services pop up overnight, and the communities can only sustain them for a short time. This is why we feel it is important to have a local advocate that knows who is providing services, what services are being provided, and when and where the services are occurring so that we know how to refer people to those services.

The MT CTF is currently in the process of creating and uploading a statewide resource guide for all 56 of Montana's counties. We hope to have the capacity to regularly update the resource guide which we will promote in our outreach activities to underserved populations throughout the year. We hope to make at least quarterly updates to our resource guide. This guide includes national, state, and local resources for special populations and well as many other resources. We are collaborating with the Montana Office of Public Instruction to further distribute community resources specifically targeted toward unaccompanied homeless youth.

The resource guide will provide contact information for:

- Employment, Education, and Training;
- Emergency Services and Basic Needs;

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Family Support;
- Health, Disability, and Aging Services;
- Housing;
- Legal Services;
- Transportation; and
- Veterans.

The MT CTF will be giving presentations about our work to the Helena Exchange Club and other civic organizations to raise community awareness. We will also help our grantees begin and/or increase this type of outreach and awareness. There has already been a conversation with the Helena Exchange Club about a major collaborative effort to raise awareness. It is in the beginning stages, but they are potentially interested in providing financial support to do a statewide push for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month and perhaps year round.

Additionally, we will increase our work to build parent leader networks amongst grantees and to provide grantees and parents with more resources. We will give parent leadership trainings to increase participation.

XII. PLANS FOR PARENT LEADERSHIP AND INVOLVEMENT

COMBINED 2014-2015 REPORT AND 2016-2017 APPLICATION

The MT CTF Board and the CBCAP Grant Administrator will continue to emphasize the importance of collaborations and partnerships that offer comprehensive support for parents. Collaborations offer opportunities to increase family stability, improve family access to formal and informal resources and opportunities for assistance available within communities, and support the additional needs of families with children with disabilities through respite care and other services. Collaborations also help to improve the inclusion of parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and members of under-represented and underserved groups; and provide referrals to early health and developmental services.

Each member of the MT CTF Board is a parent and fully understands their role in Montana's lead agency to prevent child abuse and neglect. They have and will continue to oversee all MT CTF planning, decision making, and evaluations. Throughout the year and at quarterly board meetings, the board continuously adapts their strategic planning to the needs of Montana. Looking forward to a bright future for all Montana children and their families; they work diligently in their own communities to raise awareness and implement programs. They review reports from our grantees to ensure implementation of funded programs is going well and offer feedback and assistance as needed. Finally, they evaluate proposals for funding annually to ensure that the MT CTF funds programs that meet the needs of those in need that are also geographically diverse.

The MT CTF seeks advice from other parent leaders to give direction on strategies and evaluations. The goal is to insure that we hear a broad range of parent voices to ensure they are

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

following through on what is going to make the most difference to their children's lives, build protective factors, and decrease risk factors in our state, communities, and at home.

Per the MT CTF RFP: "Programs must also demonstrate a meaningful commitment to parent leadership, including parents of children with disabilities, parents with disabilities, and racial and ethnic minorities, and to foster an understanding, appreciation, and knowledge of diverse populations and/or cultural competent practices in order to be effective in preventing and treating child abuse and neglect."

3.5.5 Parental involvement in program planning and evaluation. Describe how your program will accomplish Meaningful Parent Leadership. Parent Leadership occurs when parents address the challenges of parenting, gain the knowledge and skills to function in meaningful leadership roles and represent a "parent voice" to help shape the direction of their families, programs and communities. Shared Leadership is successfully achieved when Parents Leaders and professionals build effective partnerships and share responsibility, expertise and leadership in decisions being made that affect families and communities.

Funded programs must submit Quarterly Reports. On the Quarterly reports, programs must report on:

PARENT/CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT/VOLUNTEERS

A. Indicate how your program encourages parent/consumer/volunteer participation. Include a description of how the parent/consumer(s) participate in the design, implementation, administration and evaluation of your program and note any changes made to the program as direct result of parents'/consumers' feedback.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

The Montana Children's Trust Fund Program holds an Annual Grantees Meeting, usually in the fall. All funded programs must attend this 2-day mandatory training. A Parent Leader may be one of the Program Representatives and is encouraged.

During the Annual MT CTF Grantees meeting, funded programs are given an opportunity to share their stories and experiences with parent leadership. Additionally, there was a Parent Cafe workshop at the 2015 Annual Grantees Meeting for encouraging parent leadership, parent involvement, and parent networks. Each year the MT CTF provides educational resources to grantees to increase the meaningful parental participation in their programs.

Each funded program must provide names and descriptions of the Advisory Boards associated with their programs and provide information and names of Parent Leaders. The MT CTF demonstrates the capacity to ensure the meaningful involvement of parents who are consumers and who can provide leadership in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs and policy decisions of the lead agency in achieving the outcome of the funded programs.

Most of the funded programs have Parent Advisory Councils. For example, Dawson County has nine parents who function as the Parent Advisory Board, plus their Coalition has parent and youth sector members. Twice a year the Parent Advisory Board gives an overview assessment

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

and makes recommendations. Parents are invited to annual training opportunities provided by the MSU Extension. Each fall, parents participate in focus group activities to plan the year ahead. The nine Parent Advisors preview new materials and plan for their implementation. The Program has a high percentage of men in their classes and families of all "shapes and sizes" from single parents of both sexes all the way through three generations.

PARENT LEADERSHIP EXAMPLES REPORTED BY GRANTEES 2014-2015

ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH: Parents are receiving services in a group format which provides a mentoring type of relationship among group members. Parents are empowered and learn from one another. Additionally, Alliance for Youth is working with a Parent Advisory Board which addresses a myriad of community issues, including parenting.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERS: Parents are encouraged to take on leadership roles whenever possible. Parents plan, prepare, serve and clean up an evening meal once a month at our local soup kitchen. Parents are also involved in organizing, supervising and cleaning up for Open Gym. Parents are encouraged to generate ideas for Group Connections, as well as plan and prepare the meal.

DAWSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT: At The Nurturing Tree we continually strive to increase parent leadership and design our activities around parent involvement. After attending the annual Grantee's Meeting for the Montana Children's Trust Fund we were promoted to encourage parents to become more involved in our annual fundraiser, Festival of Trees. This year we were able to add to our FOT committee another parent. She has been involved in donating time and items in the past but this year we were encouraged by advice given at the MTCTF conference to personally ask her to join our team. She was enthusiastic and willing to be a part of our efforts in sustaining the Nurturing Tree. She has offered wise advice and helped provide a consumer outlook. We are looking forward to this year's event and all the changes we have adopted.

Parent Leadership activities include our Love and Logic Parenting Classes, Baby Bookworms, Mommy/Daddy and Me and Parent Leadership Kits. We continue to see parents interacting and setting up informal play dates from our Baby Bookworms activities. Love and Logic Parenting Classes also continue to be a success as they offer free childcare and meals to those in attendance. Our most popular and well attended activity is Mommy/Daddy and Me, where we alternate activities to include Crafty Tuesday, Power Play, School Ready, Mix and Measure and Awareness Tuesday. Each activity is carefully designed to teach children and caregivers positive interaction, developmental skills and/or safety. Parent Leadership Kits are available whenever the library is open, and include topics such as Breastfeeding, Bring Baby Home and the ever popular, Potty Training!

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DEAP): DEAP's Board of All parents were involved in the summer and school year activities so actively learning skills to work with their youth with disabilities. Two parents were involved as leaders in planning, providing, and evaluating the activities as well as attending and presenting at the grantee meeting in Helena. One parent of a child with autism who had served on the DEAP Board of Directors

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

was hired as the Parent Educator for the Best Beginnings Parents as Teachers Collaborative with One Health/Public Health. Several parents are involved in assisting with the weekly activities. Two parents and a sibling of individuals with disabilities serve on the DEAP Board of Directors. Multiple parents and extended family members were involved in the legislative process providing testimony on services at public hearings pertinent to funding for needed services for children. Parents assist in planning and participating in the summer program activities and the teen community social/recreational activities.

DISTRICT II ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM: The FRC has acquired a consumer parent to serve on the Advisory Board, after the position had been vacant most of last fiscal year. This parent originally started attending the Parent Café, took the Active Parenting of Teens class, and came to several sessions of the Nurturing Parenting Program. She is very active in the community, and a single mom to four boys. Due to her work schedule, she is not able to attend Advisory Board meetings. However, she has helped serve the board in other ways. She helped fundraise for the Kids 1st Carnival, and helped spread the word about the Carnival and the FRC to the community while she did that. She helped promote the Parade of Trees by recruiting members from the community to donate items and raised awareness of the time and location with flyers. She continually helps recruit parents to the Parent Café each month, and to the parenting classes. She knows first-hand how great the information is. She has many connections with other parents and constantly encourages them to become involved with the FRC's programs. She is a great advocate for the FRC.

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK: The Family Leader met with the Crow Elementary School Principal to present the programming, schedule classroom space for the class and set up the calendar for class dates and times. Additionally, the Parent Leader went to Tribal Chairman and Tribal offices to present the opportunity for families to attend parenting classes as well as distribute flyers. The Parent Leader also assisted in posting flyers throughout the communities of Crow and Hardin. The Family Leader helps with organizing the parent/caregiver paperwork, provides clarification for families and assistance during class time. The Family Leader also contributes culturally relevant aspects that reinforce the parenting information. The Parent Leader has also engaged her eldest son who helps with the activities for children.

Percelia Buffalo Bull Tail served as a Parent Liaison in both Crow Agency and Wyola. She assisted with teaching the classes, particularly by providing examples that made them more culturally relevant. She also assisted in leading the family activities, distributing handouts/surveys as well as organization of the paperwork involved. Percelia brought a presence that allowed the participants to be open and willing to talk about their family issues during discussion time. Percelia was also very instrumental in the oversight of flyer distribution in Crow Agency. Percelia promoted the classes and encouraged participation. Parent Leaders, those that have demonstrated leadership during the class times, supported the Parent Liaison and Parent Education Coordinator in planning the family fun nights.

FOREVER FAMILIES: Our support groups are parent lead. We use their leadership to run our whole organization. There isn't one aspect that isn't run by a parent. We find that they know what needs to be done for our families because they are our families.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

LEWIS & CLARK CITY-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT: All parents in the education group coordinate and bring food to one or two classes. In the support group, we have a parent co-facilitator, a parent leader, and a parent co-leader. They co-ordinate paperwork, sign-in sheets, and provide trainings to the group on confidentiality, rupture and repair, and safety with car seats and kids health advise. They make many of the referrals to services as they know the best services in the community first hand. The parent leaders manage the Facebook presence and phone tree for parents needing support outside the group setting. There is a spirit of warm, sincere caring that happens on this level. In all groups, parents were encouraged to take on parent leadership roles like helping with snacks, clean up, completing data collection, organizing events and activities, leading discussion, managing online forums, and doing research and referrals for developing needs.

THE PARENTING PLACE: Surveys were developed to inquire about parents interests this year. Parents answered that they are interested in helping with several aspects of the program, including writing short pieces for our newsletter. The Parenting Place hosts at least three parties each year for the respite program. Parents are always willing and excited to help with the planning. They have prepared food, helped with craft projects, arrived early to decorate and stayed late to clean up for these events. We also have parents call and ask if they can bring their friends or their children's friends along. Most of our new clients are referred by other parents using respite. Our garden has also been a source of leadership for parents. They have asked to help with the planting, watering and harvesting. We hope this encourages them to grow their own gardens and teach others how to be self-sufficient as well.

SUNBURST COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION: The Eureka Parent Educator worked closely with a parent who participated in the COS Parenting Program last year and has remained excited about helping to expand the number of parents who get involved. She would also like to revisit the establishment of a parent support group. She started this last year, but was unable to maintain it when she gave birth to her second child right at the end of the program. This parent started out very involved and took part in arranging the site as well as having input on dates and recruitment. Unfortunately, personal family issues interfered with her ability to follow through this year. The Parent Educator will reestablish contact and invite her participation in the next grant cycle. The Parent Educator in Hamilton identified 4 parents – 2 moms and 2 dads – who have indicated an interest in helping with the program there in the next grant cycle. One of the fathers became actively involved this year, helping to both set up and clean up for the classes. Many parents in Thompson Falls took on informal leadership positions by helping to promote – by word of mouth and personal contact – the program to other parents in the community.

THRIVE: The Parent Educators communicated with the current Parent Advisory Group this July and August regarding some specific programming questions for the fall. The Parent Educators have taken this first quarter to plan for the next Parent Advisory Group meeting that will happen in November. The Parent Educators would like to include parents that have been involved before, but also encourage new parents to participate in this group. The Parent Educators reviewed the last meetings' notes from the Parent Advisory Group held at the Thrive offices in Bozeman and Belgrade and discussed what worked and what didn't, and then created the plan for the next meeting. The planning also included discussing the meeting structure and

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

what other information would be helpful to present during the meeting. Children are invited to attend with their parents, so the Parent Educators also wanted a plan for some family activities to be involved in the meeting.

The Parent Educator contacted previous parent leaders to set a date for the next Parent Advisory Group meeting and encouraged them to invite new parents. However, no one was able to attend on that date anymore. So, then right before Thanksgiving the Parent Educator had a quick impromptu Parent Advisory meeting and discussed programming with 3 parents that have been involved in various events and groups. The Parent Educator handed out surveys for the parents to complete on their thoughts on specific questions. The group also discussed ways to include more parents in these meetings. Overall, the parents voiced that they were happy with the programming that the Parent Place offers and appreciate the opportunity to meet other families and learn about new activities.

We continue to engage parents as leaders in shaping policy and program activities through our Parent Place Advisory Committee, which meets bi-annually and is in regular email communication. This group provides parental input into all aspects of our programming and service delivery. Participating parents are empowered to address the challenges of parenting, and take a leadership role in their families and communities.

This past year, this group was very helpful in helping brainstorm topics for PAT groups and assisting with classes by sharing their own experiences and expertise. Finding a time when the Parent Advisory Committee can all meet continues to be a challenge. We have found that in addition to working to convene this group and collecting evaluations, it is helpful to talk with parents during or after groups, to hear their feedback and ideas for improving our services and outreach. Being interested in hearing this one-on-one input, helps us connect with a broad cross section of families and ensure that our services are tailored to meet the needs of the parents we serve.

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY & RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, INC. (WORD): We are continually working on reaching out to parents on an individual basis to help co-facilitate parenting classes and become a role model for other parents. We have also worked with the Missoula Early Head Start's parent leadership council to provide parenting classes and promote discussion. Plan to start providing actual leadership workshops including topics on public speaking, conflict management, stress management and emotional intelligence.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE/COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTER: Parents are strongly encouraged to take an active role in the "Strengthening Rural Families" program. Specifically, parents who participated in the Circle of Security Early Intervention Program use our time together not just as an opportunity to acquire knowledge, but a space to explore areas for potential growth and accentuate strengths. Participants are primarily responsible for all parent-child activities although staff frequently organized activities that involved outside agencies such as the library, fire department, ect. All participants were invited and encouraged to take an active role in larger events, such as the Fourth of July Family Fun Day and the Fly Fishing Classic. Several parents assumed leadership roles by organizing and facilitating activities, disseminating

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

posters and flyers, inviting other parents, and donating their time, energy and unneeded items to the Resource Center.

While participation in the formalized parenting aspects of the "Strengthening Rural Families" program may naturally result in parent leadership opportunities, specific efforts will be made to foster parent leadership. Caregivers demonstrate leadership as the work to develop support systems, gain and share knowledge and facilitate parent/child activities. Due to the individual nature of this program, each family is responsible for identifying areas in which protective factors may be strengthened; this truly allows parents/ caregivers to be the expert in his or her life and requires leadership on many levels. This is congruent with the Resource Center's mission to empower families. As individuals are empowered, they seem to express a sense of ownership in the "Strengthening Rural Families" program and often provide feedback related to program policy and activities. Moreover, parents become active participants in the sustainability plan of the program. Previously, parents have helped with fundraisers, donated furniture, clothing and food and participated in awareness activities. We have had great success with parent leadership once parents are engaged in the formalized activities of our program. In the past, the Resource Center has struggled to gain and maintain as many parent participants as would be desired. Future challenges may be related to this as participation in program activities is largely dependent upon participants' work schedules and circumstances. To the best of our ability, the Resource Center will accommodate individual needs.

XIII. PLAN FOR SUPPORT, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVALUATION ASSISTANCE

REPORT 2014-2015: FOR SUPPORT, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVALUATION ASSISTANCE

The Montana Children's Trust Fund works to shape the direction of prevention in Montana through providing support, training, and technical assistance. In addition to the **ongoing** capacity building, technical assistance and support provided to the funded programs by the MT CTF staff; we require quarterly reporting to show how programs are faring throughout the year. This gives the staff and board the opportunity to review the grantees work, ensure they are meeting their projected service outcomes, and provide them with any further technical assistance or capacity building as appropriate. Site visits are performed at least one time per year or more as needed by CTF staff and board members. This provides a further opportunity for evaluation and a hands-on assessment of programs; giving us an opportunity to talk through any issues, challenges, successes, and opportunities for sustainability, increased positive outcomes, etc.

In the last 3 years, in conjunction with FRIENDS NRC, the MT CTF has focused more on measurable results and outcomes. CTF streamlined the reporting template for the grantees and also worked with FRIENDS to utilize a more concise form to input and report both quantitative and qualitative data. The new template did result in an increase of support for the funded programs as they honed in the information they were collecting and determined how we wanted them to report.

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The CTF's ongoing communications, site visits, annual meetings, and other workshops with grantees give us the opportunity to better hone our skills, techniques and approaches to projecting, collecting, measuring our services and outcomes.

Each year we include evaluation workshops, training, and resources at our Annual Grantees Meeting. This helps facilitate continued learning opportunities in a group setting; addressing concerns, sharing successes, strengths and weaknesses of approaches and more.

Past and future trainings follow the parameters of:

- ✓ evaluation and data management;
- ✓ capacity building and sustainability;
- ✓ promoting protective factors and reducing risk factors;
- ✓ prevention programs and family support;
- ✓ fiscal leveraging, braiding and blending funding streams;
- ✓ marketing, messaging and public awareness;
- ✓ cultural competence, disproportionality;
- ✓ collaboration and partnerships for prevention;
- ✓ research on prevention and child maltreatment;
- ✓ evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices;
- ✓ home visiting;
- ✓ program monitoring and continuous quality improvement;
- ✓ grant reporting requirements; and
- ✓ bonding and attachment; resiliency; infant mental health; parent leadership; early child development; positive youth development; community and state resources; August reporting; centralized intake procedures; and peer review process.

MT ANNUAL GRANTEES' MEETING-Per the MT CTF RFR states:

- 1.5.9 Mandated Annual Grantees' Meeting. All funded programs must attend a 2-day mandatory training in Helena, MT. Associated travel costs will be paid by the MT CTF (Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention) funds. Two representatives from each site, directly associated with the funded activities, will receive travel reimbursement to the meeting. A Parent Leader is encouraged to attend.

The MT CTF Annual Grantees Meeting is a time for all funded programs to network, to learn specific requirements, and receive training specific to child abuse prevention and CBCAP mandates.

At the meeting we provide a range of trainings for building protective factors, decreasing risk factors, strengthening families, parent leadership development, strategic partnerships, database management, organizational capacity building, and nonprofit management.

MT CTF Annual Grantee Meeting/Training Presentation Synopses 2015

- **Welcome Address by Director of MT DPHHS, Richard H. Opper**
Working to Create Sustainable Systemic Change
- **Program Sharing**
The majority of first day of our annual grantees meeting was spent on program sharing. Each of the twelve grantees that were present at the meeting had twenty minutes to formally present the work they are doing. There was also time for other grantees to ask questions. We received very positive feedback about this session. The grantees found this session extremely helpful for ideas, networking, and overall awareness of what is going on in our state.
- **Evaluation Training presented by Cassandra Firman**
As organizations making sustainable change in preventing child abuse and neglect, evaluation is very important. Cassandra Firman, the technical assistant at FRIENDS NRC, gave a presentation on how to effectively evaluate programs. The grantees received tools and resources to help with evaluation, and also learned more about what kind of evaluation is needed for the CPCAP grant funding. Cassandra provided a PFS Database training and one on one technical assistance to grantees who were interested in using the database.
- **Outreach to Underserved Populations Panel**
The Outreach to Underserved Populations Panel brought four individuals and organizations to present on their efforts and experiences working with underserved populations. Each of the panelists explained their work and then grantees were able to ask follow up questions. The panelists for this panel were:
 - **Family Promise-** Family Promise is a nonprofit network of interfaith organizations working together to end homelessness in Montana, one family at a time. They provide shelter assistance and full-time case management to families experiencing homelessness, and connect families to services they need to achieve stability and independence.
 - **Florence Crittenton-** Florence Crittenton provides innovative, comprehensive services and nurturing programs that engage and empower children, young adults and young families to thrive and build productive lives. Their residential program provides the highest level of therapeutic care for pregnant and parenting young women aged 12 – 21.
 - **Developmental Education Assistance Program (DEAP)-** DEAP is a nonprofit organization that provides a variety of family education, support, childcare, health nutrition and residential services to families, children and adults. DEAP historically has worked with individuals with developmental disabilities, but now have expanded services and programs to include evaluation and diagnosis, caregiver, early intervention, supported and community living, family preservation, childcare resource and referral, and health education / nutrition (WIC) services.
 - **Leslie Caye: Montana Children's Trust Fund Board Member-** Leslie Caye is a member of the Kootenai and Nez Perce Tribes. Leslie has extensive experience working with both Native and State government, and helping bridge the gap between the two. Caye currently owns his own company, 7 Arrows Education

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Inc., which specializes in creating Indian Education for All-based educational content for public schools. Caye is a member of the Children's Trust Fund Board and has been instrumental in the CTF's work with the tribal population.

- **Parent Leadership Café presented by Cassandra Firman**
Parent leadership is a large part of CBCAP funding. Through feedback and requests from the grantees, the CTF decided to have a training on how to host a successful parent leadership café. This training gave the grantees a background of parent cafes, tools and resources to implement parent cafes. This training ended with a mock parent café.
- **Sustainability Training Presented by Peggy Owens**
The Montana Children's Trust Fund is continually working with our grantees to become more sustainable. Reaching full sustainability is something many of our grantees have struggled with in the past. Peggy Owens of *Sage Solutions Nonprofit Consulting, LLC*, has vast experience working with nonprofits to create sustainability. This training described the eight key elements that influence sustainability, and gave the grantees a better understanding of how to reach full sustainability. Grantees discussed their struggles and success with building sustainability for their organizations and programs/services.
- **Qigong Self Care Training Presented by Leslie Smith**
Self-Care is often pushed to the back burner for those who work in the nonprofit sector; the days are long, the work is hard, and the appreciation can be low. The Montana Children's Trust Fund understands how important self-care is in ensuring the well-being of our grantees, and ultimately allowing for better outcomes for the programs. Leslie Smith presented a 50 minute Qigong training, allowing the grantees to practice this powerful technique. Emotions were actually high during this session as one parent expressed how she knew she wasn't caring for herself and this lead to a lot of sharing and caring by the group. It just goes to show how meaningful self-care is in these trainings.

Each year the MT CTF works with the MT DPHHS, Child and Family Service Division (CFSD) to plan the annual Statewide Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Conference. This annual conference brings together over 500 foster/adoptive parents, CFSD staff, CASA, tribal social services staff, county attorneys, judges, counselors, attorney's and teachers for three days of training. In addition to assisting with planning the 2015 CAN Conference, the CTF also provided scholarships to our grantees to attend and sponsored the Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children session.

Child Abuse and Neglect Conference Presentation Synopses 2015

- **Dignitary Speakers** (Sarah Corbally, CFSD Division Administrator, and Honored Guests) Awards Presentations (Child and Family Services Division, CASA of Montana, and Children's Trust Fund)
- **Sarah Corbally and Erin Kintop- Innovations in Child Welfare: Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Projects:** In this session, participants will learn a brief history and progression of Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Projects across the nation and in Montana, which ultimately encourages out-of-the-box thinking when approaching improving outcomes for children and families involved in the child welfare



Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

system.

- **Mary-Ann Sontag Bowman, PhD- The ACE Study: Translating Research into Effective Practice with Children and Families:** The goal of this presentation is both to describe the ACE Study but more importantly, to translate it into practice language and behaviors. The implications of the ACE Study will be clear, but participants will also understand how findings from the study can be implemented to better and more effectively serve children and families in Montana.
- **Lora Murphy, Schylar Canfield- Foster Club Inc.'s "It's T Time":** This presentation covers the essential assets that a youth should put in place prior to leaving foster care. This session encourages adult supporters to assist their transitioning youth in sitting in the driver's seat and taking the wheel while they are still in foster care, and how they can support that youth in leading a team of supportive adults in the development of a transition plan that will place them on the road to success.
- **Mary-Ann Sontag Bowman, PhD, Loss and Grief:** Loss and Grief in work with children and families too often involves trauma, loss, change, disruption – and therefore, grief. Unfortunately, the impact and expression of grief is easily missed and/or misdiagnosed to the detriment of children and families. The purpose of this session is to provide accurate, useful information about the experience and expression of grief, and identify ways to assist children and families as they cope with loss and change in their lives.
- **Joseph Crumbley, DSW- Clinical Issues/Interventions with Relative Caregivers: Managing Risk Factors in Kinship Care:** This session will detail how kinship care impacts and changes family dynamics, roles and relationships, and will identify how these changes may result in risk factors impacting a relative's ability to provide permanency, well-being and safety for the children in their care. Additionally, development of interventions and provision of strategies for caregivers in mitigating and managing these risk factors, and analysis of how kinship care is different from non-relative foster care and adoptions will be discussed.
- **Angela Campbell, Michael Heaton, Emily von Jentzen, JD - Understanding the Role of the CASA (court appointed special advocate) Advocate: Best Practices For Partnering in Dependent Neglect Cases:** This session will provide insight into the rigorous training requirements for all CASA advocates, the role and responsibilities of the CASA in a court case, and best practices for working with the CASA.
- **Alison Harr Schmaltz - Ending Bullying Begins With Us:** Once we assume the responsibility for the safety, support and nurturing of children, we must become aware of the necessity for bullying prevention and intervention to promote their healthy physical, mental and emotional development. Also, we need to seek effective intervention in the bullying behaviors for both the targets of bullying behavior and those who do the bullying behavior, along with the bystanders. We want to effectively support cessation of detrimental, unhealthy behaviors and encourage replacing them with positive social skills and empathy, to bolster their personal resilience and self-concepts.
- **Jeffrey M. Poirier, PhD, Rich Weisgal - Building the Capacity of Montana's Child Welfare System and Professionals to Serve LGBT Children/Youth: Policy and Practice Standards:** Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) children/youth in child welfare settings experience challenges in receiving services that affirm their identity. Since bias and associated stress impact well-being, Montana's child welfare workforce should be equipped to effectively serve this population. This session will review recently published, research-based standards of care that are intended to guide the

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

policies and practices of child- and youth-serving systems. Participants will learn skills and strategies to increase workforce competence and improve LGBT child/youth outcomes. They will also receive three resources, including a planning tool, to inform their practice.

- **Nicole Grossberg, Cory Costello- Engaging Families and Communities to Keep Children Safe in Their Homes:** Innovation I of Montana's Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project is focused on providing intensive, short term community-based services in an effort to preserve the integrity and stability of the family system. Specialized Intensive Services Units (ISU) will work diligently with families and community providers to increase parents' protective capacities while ensuring for the safety of children. Participants will learn about the innovative case management strategies and evidence practices used to achieve permanency, safety and wellbeing outcomes for these children and their families.
- **Kelsen Young- Deepening Your Understanding of the Dynamics of Domestic Violence:** This training will be an opportunity for participants to increase their understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence through an experiential exercise that allows you to walk "In Her Shoes." In addition, participants will explore appropriate tools and techniques for engaging with victims of domestic violence about what they are experiencing and then making appropriate referrals. This is not your average domestic violence 101 training! So please consider joining us and explore an opportunity to deepen your commitment to families experiencing trauma in the home.
- **Lauren Frey - Youth Engagement: The Key to Authentic Child Welfare Practice:** So why all the buzz about youth engagement? Come to this workshop and watch how youth-adult partnerships and youth voice in planning and decision-making benefit everyone involved! You will leave inspired, filled with information and ready to apply practical and concrete tools to your work. Youth with lived experience in foster and congregate care co-facilitate this lively session with a child welfare consultant.
- **Christine Fiore, PhD-- Motivational Interviewing: An Introduction:** Motivational interviewing is a person-centered strategic approach to facilitating a client's motivation for change. This approach addresses the common problem of ambivalence about change by paying particular attention to the language of change and is designed to strengthen an individual's motivation for and movement toward a specific goal by eliciting and exploring the person's own reasons for change within an atmosphere of acceptance and compassion.
- **Scott Pederson, JD, Emily von Jentzen, JD, Karen P. Kane, JD, Fundamental Child Abuse and Neglect Law:** This session will examine the fundamental state and federal statutes and case law governing child abuse and neglect actions in Montana. The material will include relevant case law, trends in practice, and issues of concern to practitioners in Montana.
- **Kathleen Guarino, LMHC- Providing Trauma-Informed Care to Children and Youth:** The prevalence of traumatic stress in the lives of children and youth involved in



Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

the child welfare system is extraordinarily high. Exposure to trauma can have a significant impact on short and long-term health and well-being. Providing trauma-informed care means using an understanding of trauma and its impact to create supportive, healing environments that minimize impact of trauma and the potential to do further harm. This session will explore the impact of trauma on children and youth and introduce trauma-informed care as a universal response.

- **Eric Barnosky, Mick Leary - Reenergizing and Reengaging Birth Parents to Achieve Timely Permanency For Children In Kinship Placements:** Innovation II of Montana's Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project is focused on providing intensive family reengagement and support services. Specialized Intensive Services Units (ISU) will concurrently work with birth families, whose children are in a stable, supportive kinship placement, to reunify with birth families or establish a kinship guardianship with their current kin placement. Participants will learn about the innovative case management strategies and evidence practices used to achieve permanency, safety and wellbeing outcomes for these children and their families.
- **Adell Wearley, Marti Vining - Expediting Safety, Permanency and Well-Being Outcomes for Youth in Congregate Care:** . Participants will learn about the service models included in Innovation III, case management and youth engagement strategies as well as hear about post-implementation success and lessons learned.
- **J. Bart Klika, PhD - Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children:** Participants in this session will be trained in the Darkness to Light: Stewards of Children child sexual abuse prevention curriculum. Participants will learn concrete strategies to create the conditions and contexts for keeping children safe from child sexual abuse. This will include being able to identify signs and symptoms of child sexual abuse, strategies to minimize the opportunities for child sexual abuse, strategies to discuss child sexual abuse with children and other adults, and strategies for responding to disclosures of child sexual abuse.
- **John O'Leary - Rising Above: The Power of One:** Journey alongside John O'Leary as he revisits the day he was burned on 98% of his body as a nine year old. On this dynamic walk, you will stand with him the night he was told he'd die; the afternoon he first believed he wouldn't; and other formative experiences after the fire. Along the way, John will share the critical lessons he learned with help from friends both old and new. This keynote will illustrate the powerful significance of your thoughts, words and actions, and will inspire participants to tap into their possibility to fulfill their potential.

<http://www.kxlh.com/story/28802947/prevent-child-abuse-neglect-conference-honors-montana-care-givers>

In 2014-2015 the MT CTF funded memberships to the Montana Nonprofit Association (MNA), subscriptions to GrantStation at an 85% discount (<https://www.grantstation.com/public/about.asp>), and scholarships to attend the MNA annual conference.

The MNA provides a wealth of resources throughout the year to help strengthen our grantee organizations; as well as, numerous training and networking opportunities. We see this as an opportunity to build capacity and sustainability. GrantStation is an advanced searchable database of more than 7,000 active funding sources and includes grant opportunities from federal and state sources, private foundations, corporate funders, associations, and international funding sources. Information provided

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

includes contact information, eligibility, giving levels, scope and focus, areas of interest, application procedures, etc. GrantStation subscribers also gain access to research tips, proposal building tutorials and "How to" services including:

- ✓ List of questions to ask grantmakers;
- ✓ How to write a grant;
- ✓ Tips for success, etc.; and
- ✓ How to Build a Grant Seekers Calendar.

Additionally, the MT CTF offers more tailored technical assistance on an as needed basis in areas of resource development, building parent leadership, outreach and communications, public awareness, and board development.

APPLICATION 2016-2017: FOR SUPPORT, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND EVALUATION ASSISTANCE

In the **2016-2017** cycle, the MT CTF will continue to shape the direction of prevention in Montana through providing support, training, and technical assistance to partners and grantees by continuing and increasing the efforts listed above.

As in the past, the MT CTF Annual Grantee's Meeting will provide range of trainings for building protective factors, decreasing risk factors, strengthening families, parent leadership development, strategic partnerships, database management, organizational capacity building, and nonprofit management. In 2016-2017, as the budget allows we will invite funded programs, Best Beginnings partners, and former grantees as appropriate. Parent leaders are always encouraged to attend from all programs.

The CTF will survey the grantees to see where their interests lie; but at this time the three-day agenda for the Annual MT CTF Grantees meeting may include some or all of the following:

- Overview: Contractor Financial Reports/Invoices; Board information; other basic information; Quarterly reporting requirements & example; Site visits; Final Reports; and examples; Resources.
- Evaluation Training/review
- Trauma-informed Care training
- Presentation from the Confederated Salish & Kootenai tribes of the Flathead Reservation, Parent Partner Project, Tribal Social Services Department about Cultural Awareness and collaborations, historical trauma awareness
- Strengthening Families Framework presentation/training
- Parent Leadership workshop (may occur at a later date as a collaborative/statewide effort with other organizations.)
- Collective Impact
- Referrals and partnerships
- Capacity Building
- Sustainability
- Underserved populations
- Implementation with fidelity and adaptation

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- Technical Assistance for the PFS Database
- Peer Review Breakout sessions
- Presentations from each grantee

We will continue to Montana Child Abuse and Neglect Conference and the CBCAP Grant Administrator will work closely with the board and FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention to identify areas for technical assistance. The current priorities for technical assistance are as follows:

- Evaluations
- Fundraising
- Sustainability
- Collective Impact
- Raising Awareness
- Continue stream lining business processes (Payments, reporting, and generally increasing efficiency and effectiveness measures)

As opportunities arise for relevant and impactful training the MT CTF will offer scholarships, memberships, subscription opportunities; as well as; mini grant opportunities for costlier trainings, opportunities, etc. A number of projects are on the horizon for 2016-2017. Some of these projects include:

- Trauma Informed Care Training: The Trauma-Informed Care and Prevention of Shaken Baby-Abusive Trauma in Montana project will strengthen the resources for early childhood educators by providing training, education, and system support in trauma informed care and education intentionally focused on supporting infant and toddler caregivers, home visitors, HMTTP case managers, and parents of children from birth to 3 years old. In the 2016-2017 year approximately 35 individuals will be trained across Montana. This will include training on Shaken Baby/Abusive Trauma Prevention as well as trauma-informed care and ACEs for child care providers. Collaboration, within and outside of MT DPHHS, to achieve the proposed project goals, will be intentional. More information on this training can be found in Section/Page Training.
- Promising Pregnancy Care (PPC): The goal of the PPC event is to provide trainings to organizations that provide prenatal care to our Native American families. The event will also introduce PPC, a Medicaid and maternal child health program, which allows organizations the opportunity to develop their prenatal care program by blending Coming of the Blessing and Centering Pregnancy models into a prenatal care curriculum. There are currently two entities that are moving forward with their Promising Pregnancy Care prenatal curriculum: the Blackfeet Tribal Health and Trinity Hospital in Wolf Point.
- Tribal Relations and The Period of PURPLE Crying: The MT CTF/Period of Purple The MT CTF took three tribal members to the National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome to become Period of PURPLE Crying Master Trainers. The three Master Trainers are Serene SunChild (Rocky Boy), Erna Granbois (Fort Peck), and Jody Jones (Confederated Salish Kootenai). The Master Trainers will help facilitate a Period of PURPLE Tribal Training in Bozeman, MT on June 13-14, 2016. This training is for any

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

tribal member who works with families and would like to bring this shaken baby prevention program back to their community. This is a grassroots effort to implement this program in the Montana Tribal communities. It is crucial that this program is implemented in a culturally competent manner and is done "by the people, for the people, and of the people." It will be the jumping off point for more implementation and partnerships for 2016-2017 and beyond.

XIV. EVALUATION PLANS

COMBINED 2014-2015 REPORT AND 2016-2017 APPLICATION

QUALITY EVALUATION AND REPORTING

In the past decade the MT CFT has become more aware of the value of evaluation and the importance of collecting high quality data. In 2012-2013 we made a significant transition from collecting basic data and findings to becoming truly data informed. We altered the way we and our partners perceived data and the general philosophies of evaluation. We collaborated with several entities, organizations and grantees to create a more stream lined approach to evaluation and reporting for programs and their data. In 2013 we conducted a test run of a new reporting tool: the Grantee Outcome Reporting Table; which was met by some resistance by our funded programs. They had not fully understood why the data they collected was so important until this point and anything new can be intimidating. With training, technical assistance and support they all came on board, effectively utilizing the tool.

Through the 2014-2015 cycle we continued to offer supports and ongoing evaluation to our grantees to ensure that their final data report for the year would be of high quality. Please see the attached **2014-2015 MT CTF Outcome Data Report**.

The MT CTF allows funded programs to choose their means of evaluation as they deem appropriate for their programs. We find that all programs are not created equally and to meet their community needs they need flexibility. We hosted an online training on the PFS Database in 2014, in conjunction with FRIENDS NRC, to see if more training could bring some additional grantees on board with using the PFS Database; and to also provide technical assistance to those who were using it but struggling. We provided additional technical trainings and support at the 2015 Grantees Meeting.

To further ensure even more consistency in program evaluation we held an evaluation workshop in 2015 with a variety of direct preventative service providers to adapt the PFS Database. This was a collaborative effort with FRIENDS NRC. We came away from the workshop with many suggestions and an evaluation steering committee. Based on the workshop recommendations, FRIENDS NRC provided a MONTANA PFS Database draft for review. The MT CTF hosted WebEx meeting to training and discuss utilizing the database in 2015. While we encourage our grantees and other providers to use the PFS Database we do not mandate its use.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The CTF's ongoing communications, site visits, annual meetings, and other workshops with grantees give us, and them, the opportunity to better hone our skills, techniques and approaches to projecting, collecting, measuring our services and outcomes.

REQUIREMENTS:

More information can be found in the **attached** 2013-2014 MT CTF RFP that was used to fund Grantees through the 2016 fiscal year. which states:

All funded programs are required to complete quarterly reports. All funded programs must address:

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

A. Please list all accomplished objectives in accordance with your timeline for the quarter? Please explain if and why your program was not able to accomplish objectives and provide steps that will be taken to achieve the objectives. Do you feel that your evaluation tools were useful? If not, what changes will you make?

B. List additional services provided by your program/resource center in which the CTF Participants received services. Please explain in detail. Attach any literature that describes the service(s) provided. Include any special outreach to special populations.

PARENT/CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT/VOLUNTEERS

A. Indicate how your program encourages parent/consumer/volunteer participation. Include a description of how the parent/consumer(s) participate in the design, implementation, administration and evaluation of your program and note any changes made to the program as direct result of parents'/consumers' feedback.

B. SUCCESSES

What do you consider your biggest success this quarter? Please describe in detail.

C. AREAS FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT/EXPLORATION

Explain the challenges that your program(s)/resource center is overcoming. For example: problems with recruitment, maintaining attendance, transportation, etc. What steps have you taken to overcome barriers/problems?

OUTCOME EVALUATION

Please provide details of the short-term, intermediate & long term outcomes, indicators, measures and a time line. Attach all measurement tools used with the cumulative data. The Logic Model provides an effective method for charting progress from initial and short-term outcomes toward intermediate and long-term goals. A Logic Model focuses on identifying the logical links between the outcomes and the program assumptions, and program strategies or services. (Goals and objectives) Logic Model was included in the Grant Proposal.

In addition, funded program reported on numbers served in each category, funds used, and include the quarter's public awareness activities and samples.

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The **2016-2017** funded programs will have these same requirements. To have contracts renewed grantees must submit a renewal application. The MT CTF places a high value on the evaluation of the renewal applications. The highest scoring categories are achievement of outcomes (data), collaborations, sustainability, need and their logic model.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVALUATION:

As referenced in SECTION XIII. PLAN FOR SUPPORT, TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND EVALUATION ASSISTANCE beginning on page 66 we host an annual Grantees Meeting and other workshops. In the **2014-2015** cycle we gave the grantees and parent participants the opportunity to evaluate the MT CTF and the Grantees Meeting. We will be taking their comments into consideration for our future meetings and plans. Additionally, we will survey them again midway through the **2016-2017** cycle with an online and optionally anonymous survey that is more broad. Grantee feedback is always solicited and valued.

The results are as follows.

2015 Annual Grantees' Meeting Conference Evaluation

Please use the following scale to respond to each of the conference questions.

5 = Strongly Agree	4 = Agree	3 = Average	2 = Disagree	1 = Strongly Disagree
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Pre-Arrival

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Registration information was adequate. | 4.5 |
| 2. Registration was simple and efficient. | 4.58 |
| 3. Advance information about the conference was adequate. | 4 |
| 4. Questions were answered in a timely manner. | 4.5 |
| 5. Problems were dealt with professional and in a timely manner. | 4.67 |

Arrival

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. The check-in procedure was efficient. | 4.67 |
| 2. Rate the materials provided at the conference (program binders, giveaways, resources, etc.) | 4.67 |

Conference Location/Facility

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Facility was accessible. | 4.83 |
| 2. Parking was accessible. | 4.83 |
| 3. Meeting room size was adequate. | 4.83 |
| 4. Food provided was enjoyable. | 5 |
| 5. Hotel staff was friendly and helpful. | 4.92 |
| 6. The check-in and check-out procedure was simple and efficient | 4.83 |

Program Sharing

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. The content of presentations was useful. | 4.67 |
|---|------|

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

2. The time allotted was sufficient. **4.42**
3. I learned something new/helpful/useful. **4.67**

Evaluation – Casandra Firman

1. The educational content of the presentation was useful. **4.5**
2. She was knowledgeable about her subject. **4.75**
3. The quality of the handouts was good. **4.42**
4. The questions & answer period following the presentations was valuable. **4.58**
5. I learned something new/helpful/useful. **4.5**

Outreach to Special Populations Panel

1. The educational content of the presentation was useful. **4**
2. She was knowledgeable about her subject. **4.54**
3. The quality of the handouts was good. **N/A**
4. The questions & answer period following the presentations was valuable. **4.17**
5. I learned something new/helpful/useful. **4.25**

Parent Leadership Cafés – Casandra Firman

1. The educational content of the presentation was useful. **4.67**
2. She was knowledgeable about her subject. **4.58**
3. The quality of the handouts was good. **4.58**
4. The questions & answer period following the presentations was valuable. **4.42**
5. I learned something new/helpful/useful. **4.58**

Sustainability Training – Peggy M. Owens

1. The educational content of the presentation was useful. **4.27**
2. She was knowledgeable about her subject. **4.27**
3. The quality of the handouts was good. **4**
4. The questions & answer period following the presentations was valuable. **4.09**
5. I learned something new/helpful/useful. **3.82**

Qigon & Self-Care Training – Leslie Smith

1. The educational content of the presentation was useful. **4.25**
2. She was knowledgeable about her subject. **4.63**
3. The quality of the handouts was good. **4.5**
4. The questions & answer period following the presentations was valuable. **4.38**
5. I learned something new/helpful/useful. **4.38**

Please use the following scale to respond to each of the conference questions.

5 = Excellent Definitely	4 = Good Yes	3 = Average Mostly	2 = Fair Maybe	1 = Poor No
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Overall Conference – Please rate the following:

1. What is your overall rating of the conference? **4.64**
2. What is your overall rating of the presentations at the conference? **4.73**
3. Do you leave today feeling you have gained valuable insight? **4.45**
4. Would you attend a future Grantees' Meeting? **4.58**
5. What were the most meaningful parts of the conference?

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

- **Getting together with other providers and hearing the program sharing.**
- **The dialog amongst attendees was very valuable.**
- **Really liked the program presentations at the beginning.**
- **This whole meeting was meaningful. I most appreciated the data collection component – FRIENDS database and PFS info. Also appreciated that we did program sharing first.**
- **Logic model and reasons for evaluation.**
- **Self-care.**
- **Group discussions, individual conversations and networking, sharing of experiences.**
- **Connecting with other agencies and CTF staff, self-care and sustainability information, program description**
- **Opportunity to learn, discussion, peer interaction – learning from other grantees**

6. What suggestions do you have for improving the Grantees' Meeting?

- **N/A this was good.**
- **This was wonderful! Thank you!**
- **16 hours of meeting and sitting does set long. I enjoy good presentations, but it can be challenging to stay engaged on a full day. The work group/group discussions and sharing are always the best. It's beneficial to chat about each of our organizations and what we need. More ___?___ to organizations' needs.**
- **Incorporate movement into more of the days – even it is brief. Shorter second day – maybe slightly longer 1st or 3rd.**
- **Days were too long – vary activities so not so much sitting.**

7. What topics would you like to see presented at future Grantees' Meetings?

- **Social media, online fundraising**
- **Facilitative leadership, leadership skills, human relations/team building/working effectively as groups**

Please leave any additional comments below.

- **The relaxation techniques were very welcome.**
- **Thank you!**
- **Thank you! This was a great grantees meeting. Your work is most appreciated!**
- **I would like to see a more engaging meeting build around listening to organization/grantee individual needs. The small open discussions are the most valuable piece of these gatherings.**
- **Thanks for organizing and setting a welcome tone!**
- **So appreciate all you do to provide a great learning experience!**

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

CBCAP STATE LEAD AGENCY EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Program/ Practice Name	CBCAP \$	Level of Evidence-Based as defined by PART CBCAP measure	References to supporting documentation
Alliance for Youth	\$15,000	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Circle of Security Parenting; Parenting Wisely
Dawson County Health Communities, Glendive	\$15,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	“Nurturing Parent Program; Nurturing Newborns; “Active Parenting”; “Love & Logic”; Parenting Wisely; Back Pack Reading Program; support groups and special needs support groups; parent/child activities.
District II Alcohol & Drug Program, Sidney --	\$15,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	Nurturing Parent Program; Fosters positive family relationships; Family Resource Center; Active Parenting of Teens; 1,2,3,4 Parents!; Backpack Program; Nurturing Parent Program, Parenting Wisely Program, great community collaborations
The Parenting Place, Missoula	\$20,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	Nurturing Parent Program, PATHS, Parent Aide, Respite Child Care; programs at the Missoula Pre-Release Center; Mentoring services; home visits; parent education, support groups; TA /training; MAFTI
The Women's Resource Center/ Community Support Center	\$15,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Strengthening Rural Families; Domestic Violence Shelter parenting programming; Parent-Child Center; literacy support; support groups

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Developmental Education Assistance Program (DEAP)	\$10,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Parent support for families with disabilities, a summer program and an integrated play group for children with disabilities- utilizing structured learning settings and applied behavior analysis and parents as teachers' methods.
Thrive	\$15,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	Love and Logic; Parents as Teachers Program; Strengthening Families Program Ages & Stages Kindergarten Readiness –Power Play; Dynamite Dads fathers' group program; Thriving Tots; Thriving Kinders
WORD-Local Living Family Resource Center	\$15,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Parents as Leader; Love and Logic; mentoring program
Community Healthy Partners-Learning Partners, Livingston	\$25,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	Nurturing Parent Program series; Active Parenting; Period of Purple Crying; Parents as Teachers; Resource referral; Parent support groups
Sunburst Community Service Foundation	\$10,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	Circle of Security; mental health services; family support; education and community-based arts
Forever Families	\$15,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Model Approach to Partnership and Parenting; Nurturing Parenting; Beyond Consequences; Triple P components; Adoption Disruption Prevention
Family Support Network	\$ 15,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u>	Nurturing Parenting Program and Cultural based services for families in three communities, two of

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

		<input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	which are on Native American Reservations; Triple P-Positive Parenting Program
Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department	\$15,000.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level II. Promising Programs and Practices</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	Parenting from the Heart; Parents as Teachers, Circle of Security; Parents Anonymous; Emotional growth/social skills therapeutic group for children; parent support

TOTALS: The total \$ amount for each level stated above. The funding is split for programs with multiple levels. CBCAP and State funds are both shown. CBCAP Funds are shown in **BLACK** and State Funds are shown in **RED**.

Level One \$26,250.00 State: \$5,000.00 Total: \$31,250.00	Level Two \$29,583.33 State: \$20,000.02 \$49,583.35	Level Three Total: \$57,083.33 State: \$19,999.99 TOTAL: \$77,083.32	Level Four Total: \$27,083.34 State: \$14,999.99 TOTAL: \$42,083.33	Total Funding at all levels: \$140,000.00 State: \$60,000.00 \$200,000.00
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EXAMPLES OF PARENT TESTIMONIALS AND STORIES 2014-2015

The MT CTF requires that our grantees report testimonials and stories from the individuals they serve with our grant funds. Below are a few examples; however, **there is a 14-page document with many more attached**. Please see **2014-2015 Testimonials and Stories** document attached to this report and application.

ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

A couple completed COS-P that has 6 children, most of them whom were adopted from a third world country. These children had experienced chaos and trauma in their lives already as a result of the environment where they were born. This couple has learned in COS-P about how to establish secure attachment for these children who likely had attachment issues to start with. The change in this family has been remarkable and their participation in COS-P will have a significant impact on the lives of several children.

A mother with four school-aged children completed NP this quarter. She was able to identify many areas in her children's lives in which she has made mistakes and she has started to implement more positive choices. Although she was initially hesitant to acknowledge her role in her children's emotional issues, she has become much more open and has now signed up for COS-P to continue building her skills. Since taking the class, her children are functioning better in school and one who was in a program for children with severe emotional disturbances has been stepped down a level due to significant improvement.

John has completed Circle of Security Parenting recently, including individual sessions and supervised visits. His transformation has been significant. He has gained insight into the ways in

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

which his childhood affects his automatic reactions to various situations with his daughter. He has learned more patience with her and he is enjoying his time with her even more. John is a typical example of the ways in which Circle of Security Parenting helps parents with difficult childhood experiences learn how to break the abuse cycle in its tracks. John received exactly what he needed, which was to understand his past and improve for his daughter's sake.

Maria is a single mother whose husband was killed in a tragic and violent manner. To complicate matters, Maria's child witnessed her father's death, resulting in her experiencing night terrors, speech delays and heightened separation anxiety. Maria's other child also began acting out, refusing to go to school.

Maria was overwhelmed by her children's grief and she felt guilty over the trauma they had endured. Maria ignored routines, did not enforce household rules and began purchasing any toy the children desired. Maria quit work and pulled the children out of school to start traveling. Maria believed if they could have fun, it would compensate for the loss. Maria came into the Circle of Security (COS-P) program. Having come from a dysfunctional family as a child, Maria was amazed to learn about her children's emotional needs. Maria came to recognize that despite her best intentions, she taught her kids to ignore difficult feelings. Maria discovered some simple methods to enhance her relationship with her children, resulting in them feeling more secure. Maria came to recognize the importance of loving boundaries. She also established a routine and learned how to be emotionally present for her children. "I recommend this class to all my parent friends. This class really opened my eyes. I love this program!" Both children are attending school and doing well. There is still sadness, but now the family is expressing it appropriately while being emotionally present for each other.

Testimonials from recent parents:

"It is helpful to understand that I need to be kind because I can be scary."

"Learned a lot and very helpful. Loved the class."

"It is helpful to identify that my kids circle and their emotional needs are vital to brain development."

"Understanding how easy it is to not see when your children are cueing you and that it's never too late to mend a "weathered bridge"."

"I liked finding out that my kids acting out is because they have needs that aren't being met."

"You guys teach an awesome class! Great staff too."

"I just want to thank you for taking your time to help me become the best parent I can be with all the great information."

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERS

M and her husband, D, arrived to the wilds of Livingston, Montana in the winter of 2011 full of hopes and dreams of starting a new life far from the balmy coasts of Florida. They came to Community Health Partners to tap into the services and resources that might assist their family in health, housing, parenting, employment, and networking with other families in our community.

D and M were able to set up a medical home at CHP, participate in the Parents as Teachers program, begin job search, and secure stable housing (were initially living at motel where

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Melissa was employed). During their Parents as Teachers home visits, it was discovered that their 3 years old was exhibiting some troubling behaviors –struggled making eye contact, often would not respond to a simple command, and showed little empathy or understanding to her one-year-old sibling. M confided to her home visitor that a professional in Florida had stated that her daughter might be on the autism spectrum, but that she refused to believe it and that was part of the reason they left Florida. But during their PAT home visits, M and D continually expressed their frustrations about P's behavior and listened to the best practices of early intervention (early identification of a developmental delay or physical problem can drastically reduce a child's need for special help later in school) but never followed up on referrals to professionals. They continued to believe that she chose not listen and was trying to manipulate them by misbehaving intentionally to get their attention.

M soon was at the end of her rope and through a referral from her PAT home visitor sought out assistance from a parenting support group to get guidance and aid on her parenting skills. The support group members were able to guide M to the conclusion that that it might not be her parenting style but something to do with P's social- emotional development that contributed to her misbehavior. Through her support group and her home visitor, M began to seek out other professional advice for her daughter's wellbeing. A speech and occupational therapist met with M and her daughter and referred P to the Livingston School Special Education Department. P was diagnosed with autism and referred to the special education preschool. P soon was connected with additional services in the community and her circle of support widened—a professional counselor, case manager, therapeutic mentor, and respite care family became additional team members.

M continued to work with her PAT home visitor with her younger daughter and soon assisted in volunteering at our monthly PAT Group Connections meeting and led the effort at our monthly community involvement project (preparing and serving a meal at our local soup kitchen). She became active in P's classroom and was well-known for her fruit and vegetable trays that she brought for the children and teachers. She found additional encouragement and spiritual sustenance through a local church, and often led groups, meetings, and gatherings. She especially bonded with the adolescents that were struggling and often referred them to CHP's medical providers, counselors, and dentists.

DAWSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

We had a single mom attend our Love and Logic Parenting Course this quarter who is a mom of 2 kids. As each class went by, we were able to see this mom's spirits change. She was encouraged by the methods Love and Logic offered and expressed how her relationships with her children were beginning to shift. She stayed after to ask questions, gave examples of using the methods during class and is now a huge advocate for Love and Logic. It is encouraging to see how this program has benefitted the community.

Multiple mothers have been brought to the area due to oil or railroad opportunities, and have expressed stressful times and hardships. Some of them cannot find housing, are adjusting to lay-offs and/or just trying to get adjusted to a new (many times, smaller) community. These women have conveyed gratitude to our staff for providing services that allow them to interact and get to know other families in our community, many of which use our services on a weekly basis. These "new comers" have been welcomed into the activities by other patrons who attend weekly, as many of them have been in the same place not so long ago.

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The services The Nurturing Tree provides through Montana Children's Trust Fund offer struggling mothers reprieve. They are given opportunity to connect with one another, share triumphs and tribulations that other mothers understand, and change the monotony of the week for themselves and their children. These are the things that they are sharing with us, and we are trying our best to guide them through transitions and make this time in their lives more enjoyable.

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (DEAP)

One boy with intellectual disability who has been in the school year and summer program developed more age appropriate social and emotional skills including problem solving skills and is now able to demonstrate leadership with other peers at school and in community activities. With the help of a job coach he was able to find a part time job suited to his strengths and is successfully maintain that job at a local business.

Parents continue to develop leadership skills and are excited about their role in planning and supporting activities. Two parents attended the CTF grantees meeting in Helena and shared in presenting DEAP's grant services, continue to demonstrate skills by willingness to collaborate with community resources to develop options for both the school year and summer services for individuals with intellectual disabilities. One parent whose child has autism promoted a fundraising activity that will be discussed more in sustainability.

DISTRICT II ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM

During the Nurturing Program for Parents, a young couple with a young child came to class, obviously frustrated with schedules and helping each other with household and parental duties. The father had been very quiet and seemed to be uncomfortable in this setting. At the third class, he became part of the discussions and when singing and playing with his child, he was very surprised and touched that his young daughter was watching him and smiling and laughing. He then became happy to do activities and was first in discussing things openly with the group. Both parents have recently obtained good employment and are becoming more stable in their lives and decision making, as well as another young mother in our group trying to become more independent after living with her mother for some time.

During the Nurturing Program, a young mother with young children was attending to help regain independence to get out on her own and out of her mother's house. She was also hoping to learn techniques that could help her positively raise and spend time with her children. After a few sessions, their family behavior at dinner time and activity time had improved significantly. She had realized after implementing behavior charts, and embracing what the class had to teach, that she was not spending as much time as she thought with her children. She was also able to create planning for merging the children that live with her, with a child that does not, to all living together. She was able to get a good job that gave her positive change in her life and was helping her move her plans forward for merging her family all together.

In May, a young father of 2 boys ages 6 and 14 was killed in a car accident. This father was not married to the mother of the children, and had split custody. The children had a rough dynamic to begin with, and were not taking the death of their father easily. The program coordinator was contacted by this mother in desperate need of resources she had read on our Facebook page a few months before to help her children learn to grieve. The project coordinator met with her immediately, giving her a list and showing her where to find DVD's, books, and workbooks on

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

the subject. The FRC also had a free Sesame Street kit for younger children to help them understand death of a parent that was given to her as well. A few weeks later, the mother contacted the project coordinator in tears of joy, stating that after she had showed her oldest son where to check out the books, he took the list and continued to check out more. He had even found a book on a class trip that was written by other children his age on how they felt and what helped them when their parents had died. He suggested the FRC buy it for our resources, and later on asked his mom if I had gotten yet because if not, he would like to donate his. Our resources showed him there were other ways to learn to grieve, and have helped him tremendously, and he wants to continue helping others that have a difficult time grieving at an age where it is not easy to talk to people. It is great to see the FRC having an impact on every age in our community when the resources are put in the right hands.

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

During the first class there was a father who started out just bringing his wife to the class. During class he would circle the edges of the room and step out at times. As the class progressed, he came in, sat down and started to actively participate in the discussion. He said he would come back, not simply to bring his wife and child, but to participate in the class.

In working with one young first time mother seeking support, the mother informed the Parent Education Coordinator that initially she was hesitant about how to work with her daughter and didn't know how to best help her with developing her skills and teaching her not to hit. This mother reported that after attending the classes, she felt she could "help her daughter learn to be nice without sounding mean." This mother also verbalized that it really helped for her to learn how to phrase things so that it was easier for her daughter to understand what she needed to do. She also indicated that she hadn't realized how important it was for her and the baby's dad to role model the behaviors they want their daughter to learn.

A mother who felt her children's behavior was becoming out of control started to attend the classes. This mother was desperate to learn skills to support her parenting of her three children. She has been open to ideas and working hard to implement suggestions, reporting on her efforts to the Parent Education Coordinator. This mother has been making a real effort with her children to utilize positive praise for good behavior, "catching them doing good." She reported to the Parent Education Coordinator that it was a challenge at first to "not see the bad," and to recognize the good but with tools and support provided through the classes it was possible. This mother has reported significant improvement in her children's behavior. This mother has also learned to involve the children in helping to establish rules and consequences. This mother has been reporting that her children appear to have a more vested interest in following the rules that they helped to establish. This mother also verbalized that it really helped for her to learn how to phrase things so that it was easier for her daughter to understand what she needed to do. She also indicated that she hadn't realized how important it was for her and the baby's dad to role model the behaviors they want their daughter to learn.

FOREVER FAMILIES

New Adoptive moms that were able to attend the Epic Mom's group were amazed by the amount of support they received from the other moms. "We are sisters of the heart. It's amazing to me how much "family" I have now." –Jolene, Adoptive mom of 2

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

A long time Adoptive mom of 4 special needs children started to attend support group. Linda was able to gain valuable information on raising her children who are now teens and face different challenges. Linda is able to now attend support groups that help her on a weekly basis. Another adoptive mom just found out about what Forever Families has to offer. She was able to come twice this year to get season appropriate clothing for her daughter, she has also been able to attend Forever Families coffee club support group which she "didn't even know existed until she saw it on a Facebook post. With the help of others and social media we are able to help even if it's just one family at a time.

LEWIS & CLARK CITY-COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A young mother who has lost one child to the state and another to the father due to her inability to attach has been successful at bonding with her newborn baby over the last quarter. She used to call her children it, thing, and demon. Currently she has no contact with CPS and she is observed by me and others to be a warm mother responding to the needs of her baby in an accurate, timely, and loving way. She said, "I have been through parenting classes before but never got much from the previous classes. This class helped me understand so much. I would still be lost without it. I know now how to be a better person and parent. I feel so much better about everything."

It might not sound dramatic but it seemed this mom had no capacity to be a parent. Now she is thriving! She has attended both the education sessions and support group.

In the support group a mom of 4 young children began to realize through the discussion and feed back in the group that the children's contact with an abusive parent was causing them distress: agitated sleeping, regression in potty behavior, fear, and helplessness. With the group as an advocate and sounding board, this mom stood up for her kids and achieved a legal status to keep the kids safe from the abusive parent and also was able to find the therapeutic resources in the community that her children needed to begin recovery by establishing a safe home for them and safe therapy both home and school based.

A concerned father with a devastated (acting out – aggression- sexualized behaviors) family of three kids ages 3 – 6 – 9 was able to use class principles and a referral to a therapist from our class to observe his kid's needs, reflect on how he could respond safely and most importantly he became emotionally available to his kids and then helped them with their feelings. The nine-year-old is back in his home from treatment and he is able to keep the younger kids safe. He was shocked about the healing that happened in his family and will testify to it at any point as he credits the COS class with giving him the "code" to unlock his capacity as a parent and further to make useful all the therapy info and guidance he was getting. These stories are common place.

SUNBURST COMMUNITY SERVICE FOUNDATION

In our Thompson Falls class, the parent educator had one couple who were facing many challenges. The dad is legally blind and the mom is Asian (she recently immigrated to this country). Both shared with the Sunburst parent educator how much they had learned in the class. They were also thankful for the connections they were able to make with other parents/caregivers in the class for continued support in the community after their course had been completed. Just as we want to help parents understand the need for and make/keep that all important connection with their children, we want parents to connect with each other, forming a natural support system.

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The Parent Educator at the Hamilton site shared this testimonial: "I had one woman and her mother in the class. The woman is raising her three-year-old by herself. Since she was the victim of extensive abuse during childhood, having her mother there was very healing for all three of them. The woman had taken two previous classes and until this class could not understand why she should give her child a time in when she freaked out. She was of the mindset that if she gave her a time in, that the child would have her behavior reinforced. The child had been making huge progress, but when she finally started to understand the concept of a time in, it all made more sense and she started implementing it immediately. She reported back that the child has done even better and is much happier, cooperative and helpful to those that she is around. The woman's attitude has shifted as well and she is much more calm and understanding. The relationship between the woman and her mother has improved greatly and they are both slowly building up the trust that they never had. Everyone in the family has benefited and seen a great change all around."

THE PARENTING PLACE

One of our most positive stories is about working with a mom who has mental health issues that continue to plague her ability to parent. She has a partner who works full time and helps with the 2 children, but during the time she is sole caregiver, she struggles with her older child who is a challenge for her to deal with. They bring both children to respite on a weekly basis and she is has mentioned that this program is the reason that she can continue to be an adequate parent to both of her children.

One of our "regulars" came in to respite and asked staff if they knew how many days until her birthday. They guessed one week? 2 days? One day? She proudly stated that today was her 9th birthday. Her mom told us that she asked her daughter what she wanted to do for her special day. "Go to the Parenting Place!" was her request.

C and G, 5 and 3, had a hard time going home at the end of Respite. They would run around the building and continue playing while completely ignoring their mother's attempts to get their shoes on. Staff spoke with their mother who said the girls will be so wound up after Respite that it is hard for her to get them to bed. Staff incorporated "Story and Rest Time" into the program. 15 minutes before pick-up time the children clean up their toys and come inside to the reading corner. They get blankets and stuffed animals, and sit down on the rug to listen to a few stories before parents arrive. Most of the time and older child will want to read to the group. The children have become accustomed to this routine and C and G's mother is thankful to see them calm and relaxed when she arrives to bring them home. Bedtime has become much smoother for their household.

THRIVE

There is a family that has been involved in Thrive's Parents as Teachers Program for about a year. Mandy* has 2 boys, one who started kindergarten this past quarter. Preparing him for the kindergarten transition was the focus on our visits at the end of the summer. We discussed bedtime and morning routines, and transportation to school. Additionally, in our visits we did PAT activities that highlighted the skills that this child has, but also worked on the skills that he would need for kindergarten. Mom had some concerns about her son starting kindergarten because of his previous behaviors at Head Start. He was kicked out of Head Start and was unable to finish the school year. Together, mom and I worked on getting her connected with people at

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

the new school, who would be supportive of her and her son and discussed any further connections that would be helpful to her. They still had a little bit of a rough start and this child missed quite a few days at the beginning of the school year. However, with ongoing support he is now attending regularly, working on his social emotional skills and reporting that he likes school. This family readily works through challenges that come their way and is usually open to new ideas and connecting with additional resources. It was a challenge to prepare for kindergarten because mom was having a hard time dealing with the changes and working through her anxieties about this new environment for her child. Mom also has some significant mental health issues that can hinder her from being motivated to make decisions for her family. However, through this transition with the help of PAT services mom was willing to attend meetings, meet new people, and truly prepare to assist and support her son to be successful in school. This is a testament to both mom and son's resilience and their ability to working through uneasy situations to better their lives. She loves her child and even though she has difficulty sometimes making it through the day, she wants her son's school experience to be better than hers and that shows through her actions over the past couple of months. The PAT program through the Parent Educator was able to support this family in this time of transition. The PAT curriculum provides helpful information regarding transitions, kindergarten, and connecting families to each other. The Parent Educator then can bring to a family what would be most helpful to support them in success.

*name changed for confidentiality

Lori and her husband attended a Thrive Love and Logic course and used those strategies. Lori began to understand that her boys were not purposely defying her. She started paying attention to her children's cues. She expressed that working with a parent educator gave her the tools to be more confident in caring for her children and more in control of situations in her home and in public.

The newest group connection, a group for teen/young parents called "Fabulous Families," has been a great success. Families report they look forward to the chance to socialize and the activities. This month's focus was making homemade baby wipes. Jenny, a group participant, makes them for her daughter. The parent educator asked her to teach the group how and she was flattered. This opportunity helped Jenny feel confident in her abilities to share her knowledge and to help fellow parents and the families were excited to learn something that they could do for their children. The activity opened discussion on parenting, diapering, and shopping – strengthening relationships between parents. Experiences such as these, which allow parents to feel good about themselves and what they are doing for their families, are invaluable.

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY & RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, INC.

One of our most positive stories from is from a parent who took our Circle of Security class in September. This parent said on the post-evaluation that it was meaningful for them "*knowing that it is okay to let my kids explore and it's ok to also let them figure some of their problems out alone*". This parent also went on to say that they learned a "*different way to talk to my kids*" and that they "*had a great time learning*" about new ways to approach parenting. This shows that this parent began to develop an understanding of the importance of having a secure attachment style with their children which will better their relationship in the future.

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

My most positive story involves working with the individual family on their specific circumstances. They were able to report each time what was working and what wasn't working. For example, they have a child that continuously bit and kicked his parents while they were cooking dinner or washing dishes. The parents were at their wits end and admitted to feeling like they wanted to hit their child. We tried out the Love and Logic "uh oh song" with their son and they reported that it did change his behavior for the positive. I also referred this family to our Parents as Teachers program, a home visiting program designed to help parents build better skills centered on child development. This family continues to work with WORD and is consistently seeing success.

Another positive story involves working with an individual family on their specific circumstances. They were able to report each time what was working and what wasn't working. For example, they have a child that continuously bit and kicked his parents while they were cooking dinner or washing dishes. The parents were at their wits end and admitted to feeling like they wanted to hit their child. We tried out the Love and Logic "uh oh song" with their son and they reported that it did change his behavior for the positive. This family was also referred to the WORD Parents as Teachers program, a home visiting program designed to help parents build better skills centered on child development. This family continues to work with WORD and is consistently seeing success.

The parenting classes, especially those that span 6 weeks, offer a safe and positive space for parents to connect and share. I talked to several Circle of Security participants, after the class series was over, who said they had such a positive experience in the group that they missed coming to class. Parents seem to appreciate the support and community offered in the group setting. One participant said the most meaningful part of the class was, "Hearing everyone share both their parenting experiences and their growing up experiences."

Since the most recent Right Question Project focused on advocacy in IEP meetings, the class provided an opportunity for parents who have children with disabilities to connect with other parents that could relate to their experience navigating the educational system. Parents in this group were able to connect with other resources and support by talking with one another.

Love and Logic has also gotten a very positive response from parents. Reflecting on what she gained from the class, one participant said, "It was a huge eye opener about how I handle situations with my kids, and I have many ideas now on how to better communicate with them." Another participant said directly, "I feel like I am better equipped to raise my kids."

This was written on our Futures Facebook page: "I wanted to share with you that I had a long conversation tonight with a dad who has been turning his life around, and who specifically mentioned Circle of Security training (and described several new practices in his parenting and life because of it.) Just wanted to say, it was clear your organization was changing his life, and his ability to parent his daughter well. Thank you for all you do for our community." Futures serves teen parents and has a primary focus on services to teen fathers.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE & COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTER

Sara sought counseling services from the Resource Center initially stating that she was feeling overwhelmed and depressed. Sara quickly informed me that she has a beautiful granddaughter, Maggie (two years old) of whom she is responsible for raising. Throughout several weeks, Sara

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

shared her story referencing years of domestic violence, chemical dependency, codependency, and one challenge after another. When asked what her purpose or motivation for implementing positive change in life was, Sara stated that she wanted Maggie to grow up without violence, without drugs, and with a caregiver who was always there for her. Sara stated that her greatest goal was to break the cycle that had been present in her family for generations: Maggie would grow up happy and healthy. In addition to counseling services, Sara began participating in Circle of Security and was intrigued by the simplicity of the program. Within a matter of weeks, Sara invited her daughter, Liz, to her session, requesting that we start Circle of Security over, allowing Liz to be part of what Sara was learning. The family's situation was explained and I soon understood that Sara was raising Maggie because Liz was unable to care for her at the time of her birth. However, at this point in time, Sara was not only responsible for Maggie, she was also responsible for Liz as Liz is cognitively delayed and was experiencing significant emotional distress in addition to being pregnant with her second child. Throughout the course of the several weeks, Sara and Liz worked together to identify the "circle" in the family's life and to address the emotional distress experienced in and among them. At some point, Liz stated that her boyfriend had decided he would also like to be involved and the two requested that we again, restart Circle of Security! Sara, Liz, and Wes are currently involved in our "Strengthening Rural Families Program" and are implementing parenting strategies/techniques to foster secure attachment with Maggie. Liz and Wes have moved into their first apartment and are assuming adult responsibilities. The couple is connected with state and community resources; the foundation for a concrete support system has been laid. Moreover, Liz and Wes are obtaining information and acquiring knowledge that will prepare them for parenthood and assist the couple in identifying and meeting the needs of their newborn.

Recently, the Resource Center had the opportunity to engage a 16-year-old male approaching fatherhood. Throughout the course of the program, this individual invited his mother. It was incredible to explore this young man's role as a parent as well as a "child." This young man reported an increased understanding of positive parenting. He also reported an improvement in the relationship between himself and his parents as he was better able to understand his own needs as well as his own efforts to ensure that such were met.

The opportunity to serve this young man provoked an additional avenue of delivery; when appropriate, teenage children of parents are invited/encouraged to participate in Circle of Security. Certainly, this agency is aware that Circle of Security is designed to intervene in early childhood. However as relational beings, the concept of attachment is applicable to all regardless of age. In fact, having teenage participation seems to be beneficial to both the parents and the children, as often parents and children/teenagers have not been exposed to this theory. Both learn to identify, articulate, and meet their needs. Moreover, teenagers seem to acquire the ability to view their relationships with friends/partners through a similar scope.

**MT CTF GRANTEE OUTCOME REPORTS FOR REPORTING PERIOD:
JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015**

In **2014-2015** the MT CTF utilized Grantee Quarterly Reports to collect antidotal, quantitative and quantitative data. The 2014-2015 quarterly and FINAL reports collected the following

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

information from each funded program; which was evaluated by the CTF in relation to their original, projected outcomes:

- Total Number of Individuals who received preventative direct services.
- Total Number of Children who received services.
- Total Number of Individuals with disabilities who received services.
- Stories and Testimonials
- Give a narrative on Awareness Activities for April (Awareness Month) and throughout the year.
- Provide copies of editorials, news articles, press releases and public service announcements supporting your program in the local media.
- Give a narrative on your outreach to special populations.
- Give a narrative on your parent leadership activities and outreach.

The template for reporting quantitative and qualitative data is **below**. The 2014-2015 MT CTF Outcome DATA Reports are **attached** (45 pages).

1. **Measuring Outcomes.** Please complete the below information for the [JULY 1, 2014-June 30, 2015](#). Please contact me if you have questions. The attached document "Measuring results" will provide you with more information.
 - I. **Population:** What was your target population? Were you successful in recruiting and retaining consumers? Why or why not? How many did you plan to serve? How many did you actually serve? What changes will you make related to identifying a target population, recruiting and maintaining them in your program?
 - II. **Services:** Describe the services you selected. Why were they selected? What were the assumptions, research, and experience that you used in choosing services? (Draw upon the "Assumptions" piece of the logic model from your original proposal). Were you pleased with the service model you selected? Why or why not? Did you implement the service model as you originally intended? Explain any deviations from your original model. What future changes do you plan to make in your program's services based on what you learned in implementing your services?
 - III. **Outcomes:** Report on outcomes by using the *Outcome Reporting Table* below. Be concise. Do not exceed one page per outcome, although you may attach relevant tables, graphs or charts to illustrate your results. Do not submit raw data or completed parent surveys although one blank copy of your survey(s) should be included in the report.

Instructions for use of table: (You should not exceed 1 page for each outcome reported on, although you may attach charts or tables to illustrate the findings.)

Outcome: State the outcomes from your original logic model. **Indicators:** State the indicators from your original logic model. **Measurement:** After each outcome and set of indicators, briefly describe how you evaluated its achievement. If you used a specific measurement tool, such as a survey, name the tool and attach a copy of it to this report.

Quantified Findings: What were the quantifiable results from your evaluation efforts? (Example: 80% of the participants reported a reduction in the use of corporal punishment. 94%

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

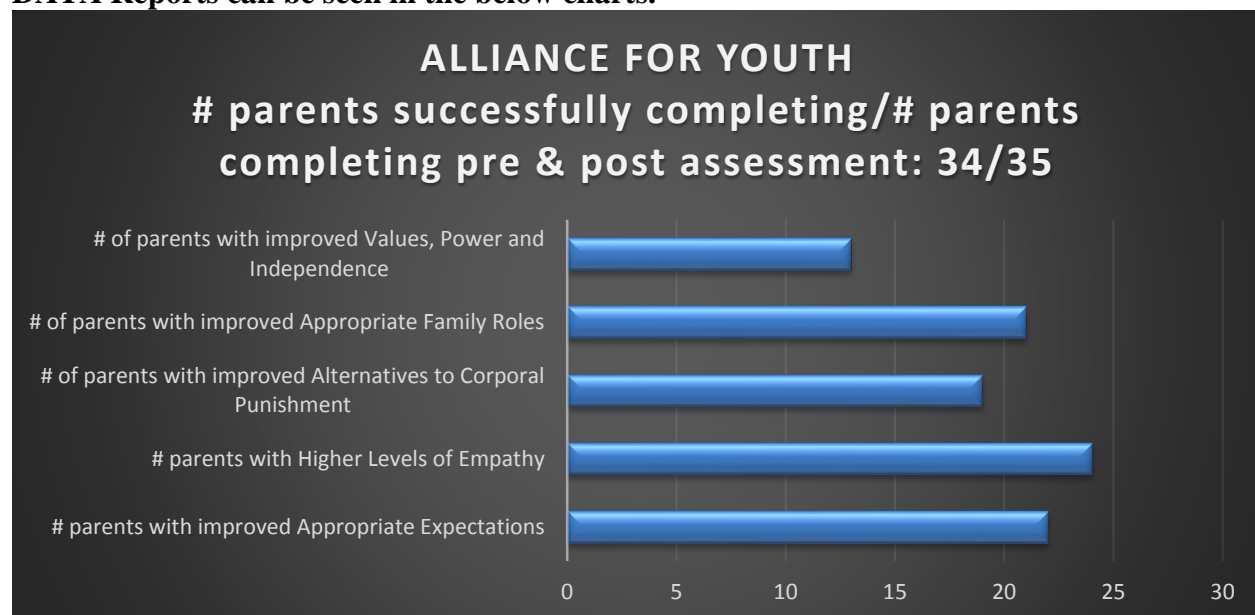
increased the amount use of positive reinforcement, etc.). You will discuss these findings in greater detail in later sections of report. Attach applicable tables and/or charts.

Outcome Reporting Table Reporting period: ____/____/____ to ____/____/____

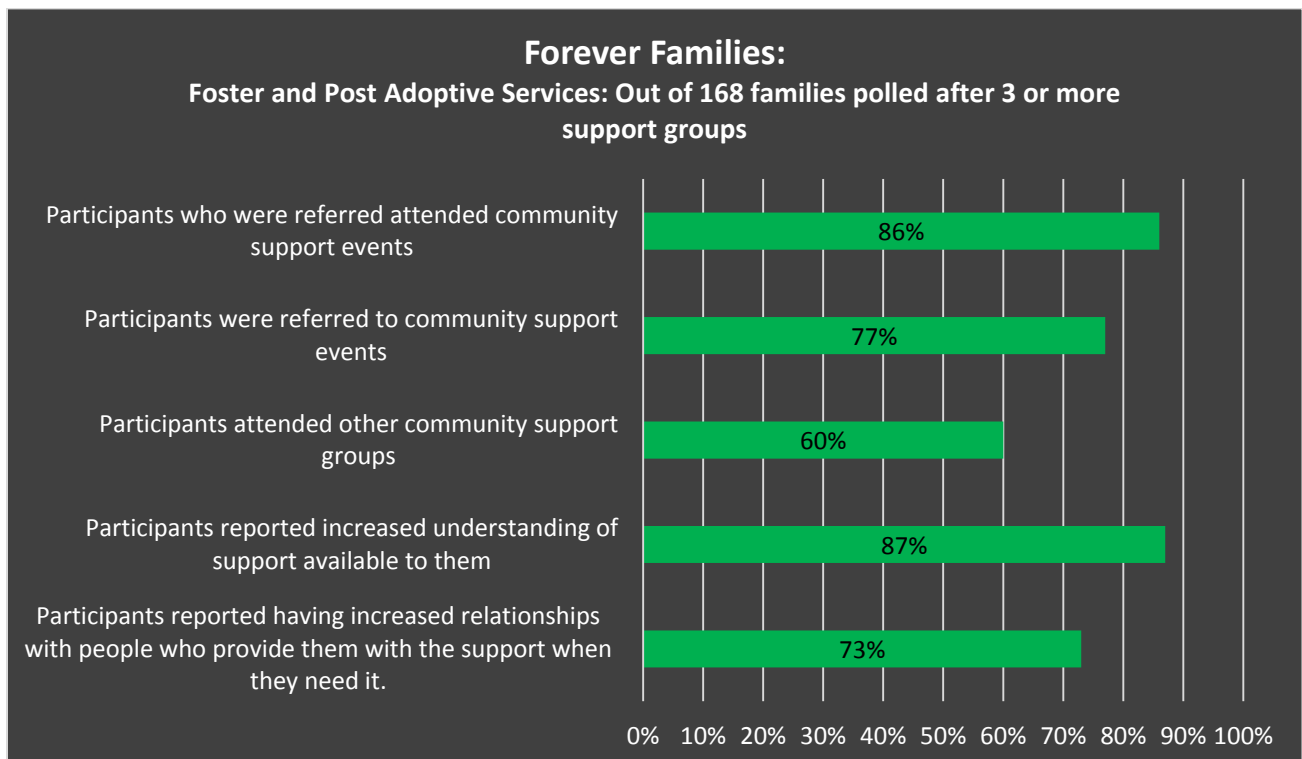
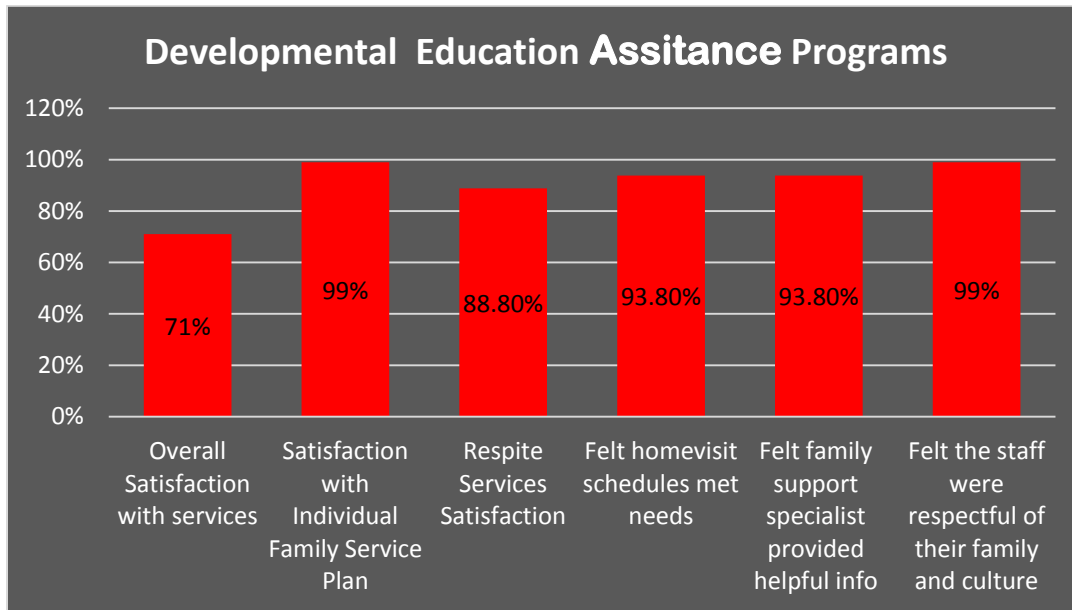
Outcome# ____ [1, 2, 3 . . .] <input type="checkbox"/> short term <input type="checkbox"/> intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> long-term [Cut and paste the outcome from your logic model]
Indicators: [Cut and paste the indicators for the above outcome here]
Measurement: [describe how you measured outcomes here]
Findings: [Discuss results from your evaluation efforts. Quantify your findings when possible. Example: 80% of the participants reported a reduction in the use of corporal punishment. 94% increased the amount use of positive reinforcement, etc.). Attach applicable tables and/or charts.]

IV. Discussion of Evaluation findings: Describe successes and shortcomings in outcome achievement. How were your outcomes related to your service implementation? How will your evaluation results be used by the agency? Include plans for future service delivery to improve on current results. When possible, use qualitative data to help explain findings and conclusions.

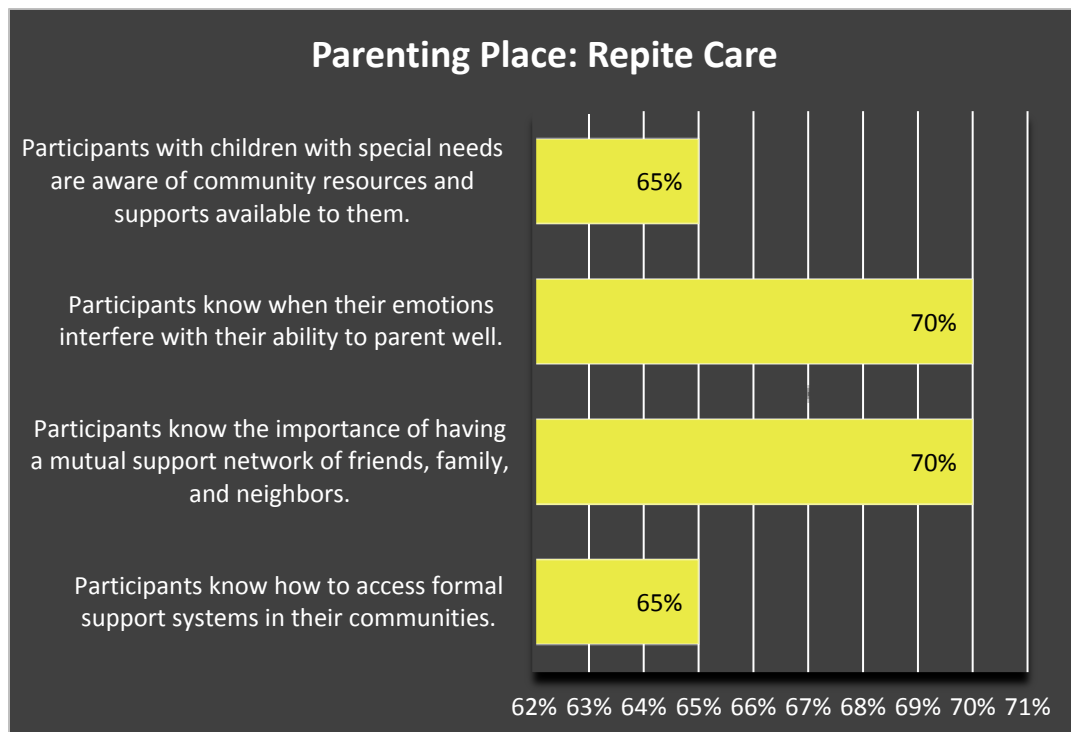
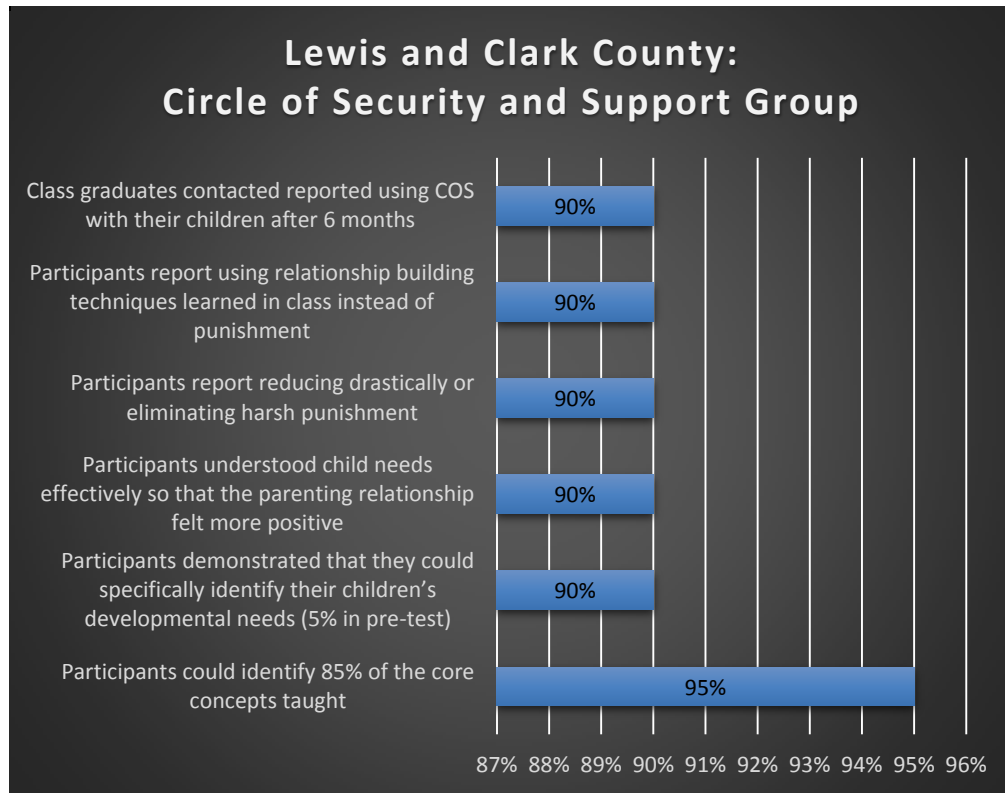
A snap shot of some of the data contained in the attached 2014-2015 MT CTF Outcome DATA Reports can be seen in the below charts.



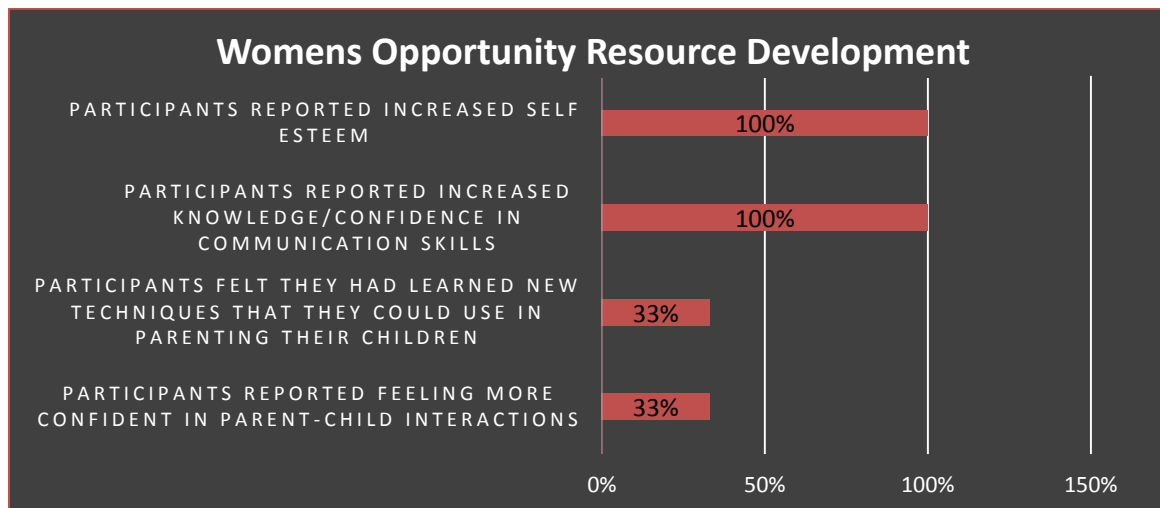
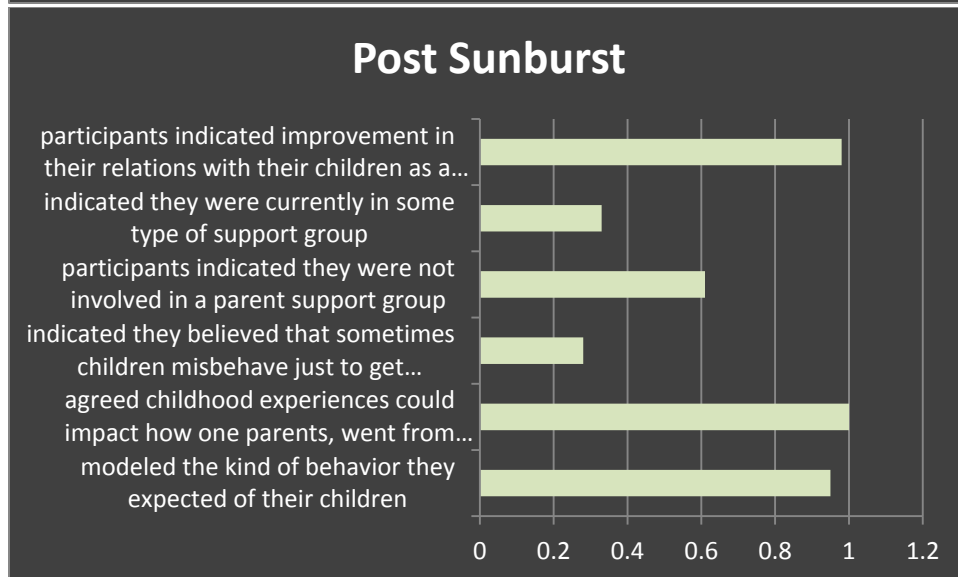
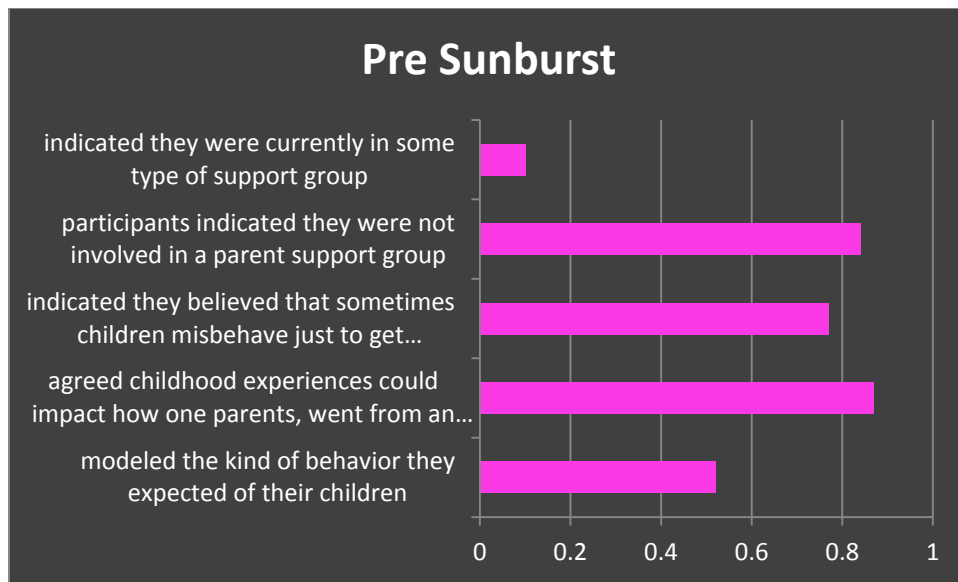
Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017



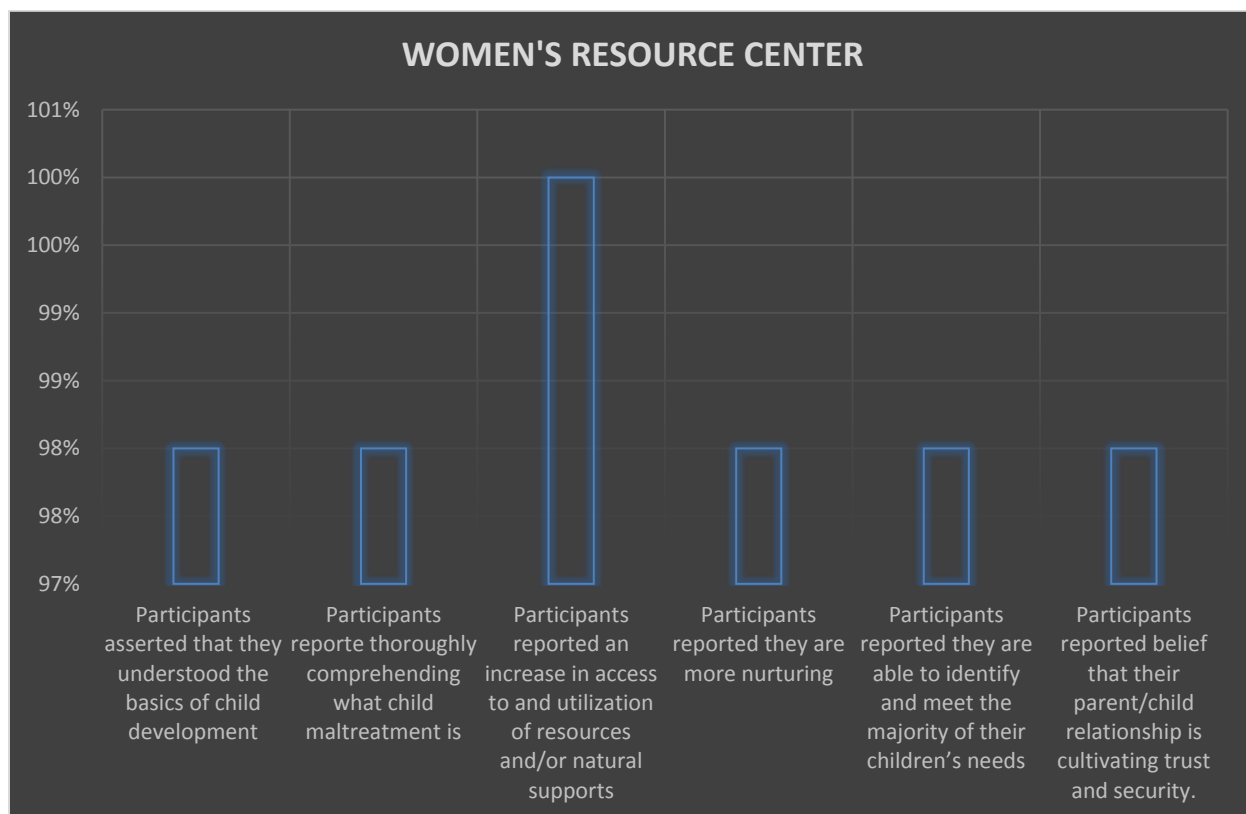
Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017



Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017



Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017



Below is the MT CTF grantee list for 2016-2017.

**CBCAP STATE LEAD AGENCY EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS
AND PRACTICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017**

Program/ Practice Name	CBCAP \$	Level of Evidence-Based as defined by PART CBCAP measure	References to supporting documentation
Best Beginnings Early Childhood Community Coalition protected by the Northern Cheyenne Tribe	\$25,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Family Spirit
The Gallatin Early Childhood Community Coalition	\$25,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported –	Parents As Teachers Home Visiting Program; Incredible Years; Pyramid Model

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

		Effective practice	
Healthy Start Missoula, Best Beginnings Community Coalition	\$25,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Respite Child Care
The Butte Community Council (BCC), Butte 4-C's	\$25,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Circle of Parents
Alliance for Youth	\$15,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Circle of Security Parenting; Nurturing Parenting
Dawson County Health Communities, Glendive	\$15,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Parents As Teachers; Active Parenting; Love & Logic; Parenting Wisely; support groups and special needs support groups; parent/child activities.
Florence Crittenton	\$15,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Circle of Security Parenting; Love and Logic; STRIVE
Montana State University Extension	\$15,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren; Parenting Second Time Around (PASTA)
Head Start, Inc.	\$15,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Level III. Supported Efficacious <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	The Incredible Years; Parenting classes
Thrive	\$15,000.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and	Partnership Program; Love and Logic; Parents as Teachers Program;

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

		Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice</u>	Strengthening Families Program
Family Support Network	\$15,000.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level I. Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level II. Promising Programs and Practices <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Level III. Supported Efficacious</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Level IV. Well Supported – Effective practice	Nurturing Parenting Program and Cultural based services for families in three communities, two of which are on Native American Reservations; Triple P-Positive Parenting Program

TOTALS: The total \$ amount for each level stated above. The funding is split for programs with multiple levels. CBCAP and State funds are both shown. State Funds are shown in **BLACK** and CBCAP Funds are shown in **RED**.

Level One \$0 State: \$7,500 Total: \$7,500	Level Two \$0 State: \$35,000 Total: \$35,000	Level Three Total: \$0 State: \$50,000 Total: \$50,000	Level Four Total: \$100,000 State: \$12,500 Total: \$112,500	Total Funding at all levels: \$100,000 State: \$105,000 Total: \$205,000
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On the next page is a regional representation of the MT CTF funding and programs for the 2016-2017 grant cycle created by Melissa Lavinder, the MT CTF Program Specialist and VISTA Kami Kirchberg.

Montana Children's Trust Fund

CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017



montana
CHILDREN'S TRUST
fund

Nurturing Children, Supporting
Communities, Strengthening Families

P.O. Box 4210 | Helena, MT 59604
406-444-3002 | Fax 406-444-1970
ChildrensTrust.mt.gov | Twitter | Facebook

16 Prevention Grants \$205,000

- ◆ Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) Federal Grants \$105,000
- ◆ State Special Fund Grants \$100,000

Grant Funding by Region

Fiscal Year 2017

(July 1, 2016- June 30, 2017)

Since 2002, the **Children's Trust Fund** has allocated **over \$3 million** to **prevention programs** in **communities** throughout **Montana**.

North Western

\$25,000

1 Project

North Central

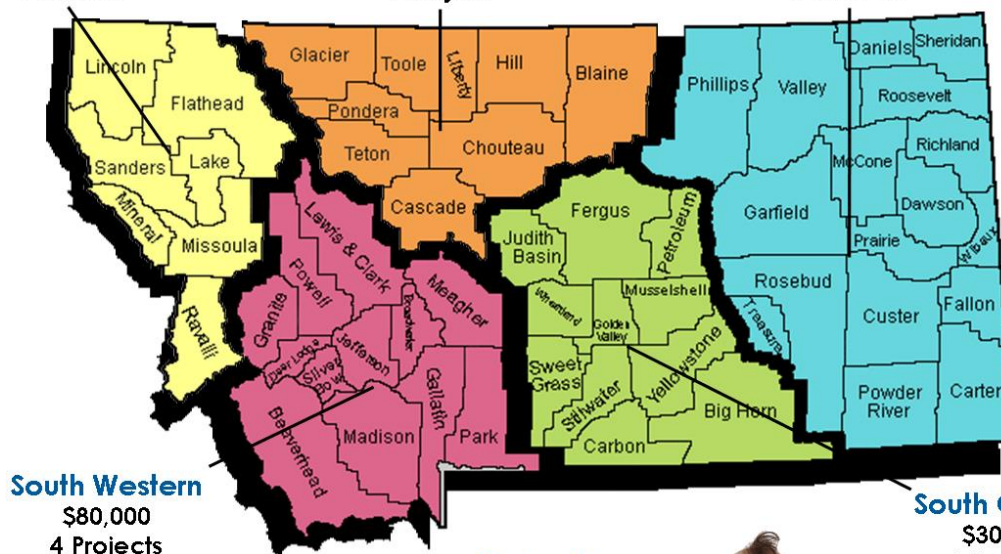
\$15,000

1 Project

Eastern

\$40,000

2 Projects



South Western

\$80,000

4 Projects

Statewide

\$15,000

1 Project

South Central

\$30,000

2 Projects



Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Grants Fiscal Year 2017

- State Special Fund Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Grantees
- Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Program (CBCAP) Federal Fund Grantees

North Western Region	\$25,000	South Western Region	\$80,000
Healthy Start Missoula		Florence Crittenton	
Missoula County		Lewis & Clark County	
Respite Child Care Expansion & Outreach	\$25,000	Circle of Security and Love and Logic	\$15,000
North Central Region	\$15,000	Thrive	
Alliance for Youth, Inc.		Gallatin County	
Cascade County		Parents as Teachers Home Visiting (PAT)	\$15,000
Circle of Security and Nurturing Parenting	\$15,000	Butte Community Council, Butte 4-Cs	
Eastern Region	\$40,000	Silver Bow County	
The Nurturing Tree		Circle of Parents	\$25,000
Dawson County		Gallatin Early Childhood Community Coalition	
Parent Resource Center	\$15,000	Gallatin County	
Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Cheyenne Nation BBCC		PAT, Incredible Years Program, Pyramid Model	\$25,000
Northern Cheyenne Reservation		Statewide Programs	\$15,000
Family Spirit Home Visiting	\$25,000	Montana State University Extension	
South Central Region	\$30,000	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	\$15,000
Head Start, Inc.			
Yellowstone and Carbon Counties			
The Incredible Years	\$15,000		
Family Support Network			
Big Horn County			
Triple P - Positive Parenting Program	\$15,000		

*BBCC - Best Beginnings Community Council or Coalition

ChildrensTrust.mt.gov

XV. PLAN FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

COMBINED 2014-2015 REPORT AND 2016-2017 APPLICATION

PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION:

In 2015, the MT CTF hosted the fourth annual Pinwheels for Prevention. Pinwheels for Prevention in an eye catching display. Over 2,000 blue pinwheels were planted around the Montana State Capitol lawn by CTF staff and volunteers. This powerful display is a reminder to all Montana residents that child abuse prevention is everyone's responsibility.

The MT CTF received sponsorships from local and statewide organizations. We received a \$10,000 sponsorship from Blue Cross Blue Shield for our Child Abuse Prevention month efforts. We used these funds to make more of a statewide impact. A pinwheel coloring sheet with a list of parenting facts and resources were put into newspapers across Montana. This helped raise awareness of the Children's Trust Fund and child abuse prevention.



We also received a \$500 sponsorship for the Helena Exchange Club (HEC). In 2014, the HEC reached out to the MT CTF as a partner for our April activities. In 2015, we continued our partnership with the HEC, with a \$500 sponsorship, as well as the HEC helping plant pinwheels around the Capitol. With the \$500 sponsorship, we were able to provided pinwheels and resources to our grantees throughout the state so they could put on their own Pinwheels for Prevention display.

Many other sponsors and supporters came forward to help make our Pinwheels for Prevention a huge success. From Grocery stores to realtors to Jimmy Johns to other businesses, agencies and organizations; our community rallied to support the first annual Pinwheels for Prevention Parade in 2015. The MT CTF reached out to a local elementary school who has participated in our April activities in the past. For this event, the elementary students paraded with blue pinwheels from their school to the State Capitol



Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

lawn a few blocks away. Beforehand, the students all put blue handprints on a sign that was carried at the front of the parade. Miss Montana and Blue Cross Blue Shield's Blue Bear attended the event and paraded with the students. Once at the Capitol, Jimmy Johns catered a lunch for all students, teachers, and volunteers. After lunch, the MT CTF held the Pinwheels for Prevention Press kickoff. The Director of the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Richard Oppen; Montana First Lady, Lisa Bullock; the president of Blue Cross Blue



Shield of Montana, Mike Frank, and MT CTF staff, all spoke at this press conference. Blue Cross Blue of Shield also presented the \$10,000 sponsorship check at the press kickoff. The parade and press conference garnered a lot of media coverage, with multiple news stations and radio stations covering the event. Overall, the 2015 Pinwheels for Prevention press conference and parade was a huge success that involved many community partners and encouraged everyone to reflect on the role they play in keeping our community's children safe.

To further help shed light on this campaign we had the Capitol staff place blue gels over the flood lights to color the Capitol building blue at night.

Due to our increasing partnerships with organizations throughout the state, the MT CTF was able to increase media coverage of April efforts in 2015.

<http://www.kxlv.com/story/28792633/pinwheels-at-the-capitol-mark-national-child-abuse-awareness-month>

<http://www.havredailynews.com/story/2015/04/02/local/go-blue-day-is-set-for-friday/503459.html>

<http://newstalkkgvo.com/number-of-montana-kids-in-foster-care-reaches-a-highpoint-in-2015/>

In the 2016-2017 cycle, the Montana Children's Trust Fund plans on continuing to grow our April efforts to have more of a statewide presence. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana has informed us that our \$10,000 sponsorship has been written into their yearly budget, which will allow us to keep growing our awareness activities and increase our statewide participation. For 2017, we plan on having the third annual Pinwheels for Prevention Parade with local elementary schools. We also plan on reaching out to schools all across Montana to host their own Pinwheels for Prevention Parade.

Along with the Pinwheels For Prevention Parade, we also plan on creating an essay contest and PSA challenge for schools across Montana. These activities will encourage all students to reflect on what a strong family means to them, and ways their community can support families and children. By engaging Montana's youth, we are able to start the imperative conversations and remind them that strong families and safe kids are important.

In addition to the Blue Cross Blue Shield sponsorship, we plan on garnering sponsorships from other business and organizations, as well. The Helena Exchange Club has been a dedicated

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

partner in our many activities, and we hope to continue our partnership in 2016-2017. We will continue to reach out to businesses to garner support and help us increase our awareness. Although many business and organizations are not able to sponsor us, they all are able to show their support for the work we do, and encourage their clients and customers to do the same.

In 2016, the Montana Children's Trust Fund created a statewide collaboration group for April. Many organizations, such as the National Guard, the Early Childhood Community Coalition, and No Kid Hungry, all have awareness events in April. By creating a statewide collaboration group, we are able to increase awareness of everyone's efforts, while not having to compete for media coverage. This effort will continue in 2017.

In conjunction with our collaborative efforts, the Montana Children's Trust Fund also plans on adding a Family Resource Fair. While the annual press kickoff has gained a lot of support and raised a good amount of awareness, a Family Resource Fair would engage Helena residents more. This resource fair will allow us to continue to build relationships with local organizations and increase awareness of not only CTF, but also the many great resources Helena has to offer. A Family Resource Fair was piloted in 2016, with 19 booths and over 300 in attendance; we considered it a success. We have and will encourage communities throughout the state to host their own Family Resource Fair during Child Abuse Prevention Month in 2017.

As in years past, we also plan on engaging and supporting our grantees even more to host their own Pinwheels for Prevention displays and participate in other April efforts. With the increased amount of support and resources to our grantees, we will be able to raise more awareness of the CTF, child abuse prevention, and all the services that our grantees have to offer.

We will continue to collaborate with our partners statewide. Because of the success we had in 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 with our activities we will put more effort into the Blue Day and Blue Sunday Activities. Our goal will be to have more statewide participation with both of the campaigns.

We have coordinated with our grantees in all of the efforts in the past and will increase these efforts to make an even bigger impact to increase awareness of both the CTF and child abuse and neglect awareness. With encouragement, our partners throughout the state were able to increase their activities and pledged to do more in coming years.

GO BLUE DAY AND BLUE SUNDAY:

After having a successful pilot year in 2014, the Montana Children's Trust Fund continued our Go Blue Day and Blue Sunday. Go Blue Day is an awareness campaign, which encourages all Montanans to wear blue on a scheduled day to show their support for child abuse prevention. In 2015, we were able to increase our Go Blue Participation, and created a social media hashtag #ShareYourBlue. We had social media engagement from people all over Montana who participated in Go Blue Day.

We also partnered with Montana churches for the second annual Blue Sunday Campaign. This campaign encourages faith-based organizations to take a moment of silence during the service to remember victims of child abuse and neglect. We also encourage them to take up a donation for

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

the MT CTF. In 2015, several churches responded to our outreach efforts and the CTF received \$750.00 from Blue Sunday.

In **2016-2017**, the Montana Children's Trust Fund will continue to strengthen our social media campaign and engage more people statewide. We plan to modify our Go Blue Day and start a #GoBlue Mondays campaign, that encourages people from all over the state to wear blue every Monday in April to show their support of child abuse prevention. If we receive the Blue Cross Blue Shield sponsorship, we plan on using part of that \$10,000 to make #GoBlue t-shirts and distributing them to our partners throughout the state. The t-shirts will raise awareness about child abuse prevention, and also start conversations about the role everyone plays in keeping children safe. We also plan on creating a #GoBlue contest for Montana elementary schools to encourage them to think about what strong families means to them. We will partner with news and radio stations throughout the state to increase awareness of our efforts and participation in our #GoBlue Mondays.

For Blue Sunday, we will use the database that was created in 2014 as a base point, and increase the database as time allows. We plan to send out the initial Blue Sunday letter at the end of 2016, and then follow up with churches in February or March.

STATEWIDE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (CAN) CONFERENCE:

Each year the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Child and Family Services Division (MT DPHHS, CFSD) facilitate a team to plan the Annual Montana Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) Conference. The planning group is a collaboration of participants from the MT DPHHS, CFSD including Program Managers, Child Protective Services Specialists, Foster Care Specialists, Adoption Program Officers and participants from the Supreme Court and the CASA program. The CBCAP Grant Administrator is also a member of the planning committee. The MT CAN Conference committee convenes during the fall of each year and begins planning the April CAN conference.

The statewide conference has grown from 50 attendees in mid-1990 to an all-time high of 665 participants for the 2007 Conference. The Montana's 2014 Child Abuse and Neglect Conference again represent collaboration between the MT CTF, the MT DPHHS/CFSD, and the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA), the Court Assessment Program, the Montana Supreme Court Administrator's Office, the Department of Justice, the National Resource Center for Family-Center Practice and Permanency Planning and the National Resource Center for Youth Services.

The annual Montana Conference brings together key staff from the child welfare field, foster and adoptive parents, tribal social services, in-home services, and other professionals representing the related disciplines of education, health care, law enforcement, the judiciary, substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental health; as well as academicians, researchers, parents, advocates, community-based program staff and volunteers. The Montana CAN Conference mirrors the National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Conference.

In the **2016-2017 cycle**, the MT CTF plans to continue participation in planning and sponsoring the CAN Conference. We have increased our awards given out to champions of Montana's

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

children and families to include Pinwheels for Prevention Award and an Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Award in addition to the Strengthening Families Award that we already give. The MT CTF will continue to table at this event and distribute educational and promotional materials to all attendees at the Conference. The MT CTF plans to continue participation in planning and sponsoring the CAN Conference. We have increased our awards given out to champions of Montana's children and families to include Pinwheels for Prevention Award and an Outstanding Corporate Citizenship Award in addition to the Strengthening Families Award that we already give. The MT CTF will continue to table at this event and distribute educational and promotional materials to all attendees at the Conference.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS:

All funded programs must report on all public awareness activities throughout the year, and in April. Many funded programs also implement the Prevent Child Abuse America Pinwheels displays. Missoula Parenting Place is part of the Montana Chapter of PCA. They spearheaded the past pinwheel events across Montana. Kalispell, Billings, Missoula, and many other communities displayed the Pinwheels in prominent places, businesses, and areas.

The 2013-2014 MT CTF RFP that was used to fund the 2014-2015 Grantees states:

3.5.2 Public Awareness. Include Public Awareness as one of the goals and show through the objectives how the program intends to carry out activities at the community level to promote funded program services and the MT CTF.

3.5.3 Child Abuse Prevention Month. Describe the activities the program will coordinate or participate in observance of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month (Strengthening Families Month). Public information activities that focus on the healthy, positive development of parents and children along with the promotion of child abuse and neglect prevention activities may be included.

NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE CAMPAIGN:

In May 2014, Rebecca Wilson with the Nurturing Center in Kalispell, Montana asked us to create materials for the Not Even for a Minute (NEFAM) Campaign due to a noticeable increase of parents leaving their children in vehicles. The NEFAM Campaign encourages parents to never leave their children unattended in or around a vehicle and offers tips on ways to remember to bring your kids out of the car and how to avoid needing to leave your car when running errands.

We contacted the Missouri Children's Trust Fund and the Children's Trust Fund of Massachusetts for help with the design of posters and rack cards. They both



Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

generously allowed us to tweak their designs so that we did not have to spend a great deal of money designing our own. We made the materials available on our website and distributed hard copies to Head Start programs and made them available at our Grantees Meeting, the Montana Nonprofit Association Conference, and our Halloween event. The Not Even for a Minute Campaign is not only applicable in the summer months, but also during fall and winter months because children can overheat in a vehicle left running with the heater on, especially if they are bundled up. The Not Even for a Minute Campaign was also advertised via a press release, for which we received two interviews.

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/childrenstrustfund/notevenforaminute.aspx>

<http://newstalkkgvo.com/not-even-for-a-minute-campaign-reminds-parents-to-never-leave-children-unattended-in-vehicles/>

http://helenair.com/news/local/community-briefs/article_4b68711a-8ace-5eda-8fc7-57233602fcee.html

We will continue and increase our efforts in the **2016-2017 cycle**. We plan to partner with county health departments, early childhood coalitions, tribes, pediatricians and law enforcement to create a PSA campaign. Additionally, the Montana Department of Transportation is concerned about this growing problem so we will be working with them to make the most of our resources and maintain consistent messaging.

INCOME TAX CHECK-OFF PSA CAMPAIGN:

Each year, the MT CTF funds an annual Income Tax Check-Off PSA campaign to raise funds and awareness. During this 4-month campaign in 2015 we ran our PSA statewide on public, local and cable TV stations and public and local radio stations. For \$12,000 the MT CTF received over 3,500 spots, statewide. We plan to do the same for the 2016-2017 cycle but with our new PSA that was produced in January 2016. We also plan on exploring different media avenues, such as Pandora radio ads to see what media channel receives the best outcome. The links to both PSA's can be found:

<http://web.hhs.mt.gov/childrenstrustfund/donatevideo.shtml> - link doesn't work

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxgGvj2yngE>

HALLOWEEN FUN FESTIVAL

The Halloween Fun Festival started in 2014 as a safe and warm alternative to trick-or-treating for the Helena community. The end of October weather can be very unpredictable in Montana, and many of the rural areas do not have well lit sidewalks along the roads, making rick-or-treating dangerous for many Montanans. This Fun Fest allows community members to take their children to an indoor carnival for free.



Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

With the overwhelming community support of this event, the MT CTF was able to expand quite a bit in 2015 for the third annual Halloween Fun Fest. With the first two years being a success, the CTF looked for ways to make this event more community oriented and useful for parents, in addition to being fun for the children. We saw this event as an opportunity to raise awareness about the resources that Helena has to offer to families. Over 1,500 parents and families attended the 2015 Halloween Fun Fest.

We created a planning committee to help coordinate the 2015 Halloween Fun Fest. This committee consisted of six community members (mostly parents). The planning committee met bi-weekly starting in August. Without the help of the committee, the amount of donations and community involvement would not have been able to happen. They were integral in securing donations, raffle prizes, volunteers and spreading community awareness about our event.

In order to expand our efforts, we also had to expand our sponsorships. We reached out to previous sponsors and also increased our outreach to new community businesses. With overwhelming support, we received \$5,000 cash sponsorships from eleven community



businesses. Local TV and radio stations also sponsored us to help promote the event, with over \$3,000 in-kind sponsorships from television and radio stations. We also held a free raffle drawing with 17 donated raffle prizes valued at over \$650. Due to accessibility issues, we moved our event from the local YMCA, to another local gym that was handicap accessible. This gym location was donated for the entire day, valued at \$3,000.

The Halloween Fun Fest sponsors included; Capital City Health Club, Windermere Real Estates, Stockman Bank, TSA Architects, Helena Exchange

Club, KXLH, Montana Radio Company, Rocky Mountain Credit Union, and Helena Credit Union.

To make the Halloween Fun Fest more resourceful for the parents who attend, we decided to expand the event to a resource fair and carnival. We reached out to 14 community businesses and organizations to host tables at our event with information on their services. These resources included; information on first time home buyer loans, wellness programs, programs for people with disabilities, and the local police offering safety advice. Each of the organizations that hosted a table brought a fun game and prizes for the kids, and information on their resources for the parents. We got a lot of positive feedback from both parents and organizations about the helpfulness of this event. Over 1,500 parents and kids came through the event, all learning about new resources to help ensure their kids grow up in a safe and supported environment. Along with fun games, we also had a photo booth, face painting, and a cake walk. A local photographer donated her time to take the pictures, edit them, and post them online. Which many families appreciated; many stated that it was the only professional photo they ever had as a family. All the cupcakes were donated from local bakeries.

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

The Halloween Fun Fest table sponsors and donors included; the Helena Police, PEERS Unlimited, St. Peter's Hospital, the Department of Agriculture, Helena Youth Homes, Playable Playgrounds, Vanilla Bean Bakery, Vans Thriftway, Safeway, Great Harvest Bakery, and Albertsons.

New in 2015 was a costume drive and swap. With costume prices so high, Halloween can be a difficult time for parents. The MT CTF saw our Halloween Fun Fest as the perfect occasion to host a costume swap. This was an opportunity for families to bring in old costumes and swap them for new ones, or just get a costume if they were unable to afford one. In order to have enough costumes to swap out, we also hosted a costume drive the month before. We put out 10 costume drop boxes at local businesses. Being the first year for the costume drive, we were unsure how successful it was going to be. However, thanks to the news and radio stations that helped promote the drive, we have an overwhelming amount of costumes donated. We had countless parents thank us profusely for allowing their children to have a Halloween costume. Halloween comes once a year and no child should feel left out due to not being able to afford a costume.



In 2014, we gave away over 150 books as prizes. In 2015, we ordered even more books for \$1 or less per book through First Book Marketplace, and also had 300 books that Miss Montana gave us. Instead of giving the books away as a prize, we set up a table with the hundreds of books and allowed families to take them as they wish. We had books that ranged from baby's first book to books for tweens/teens. Parents were extremely grateful for the books, and appreciated having such a wide range of ages and genres.

With increasing our festival, we also needed more volunteers to help run the event. The MT CTF reached out to local schools and clubs for volunteers. We had 33 volunteers signed up to help set up, run the event, and take down. Due to the incredible number of volunteers, the event ran more smoothly than it had in the past. Overall, our third annual Halloween Fun Fest was a huge success. We increased our partnerships, raised awareness of MT CTF, and connected parents with valuable family resources.

In **2016-2017**, we plan on focusing on helping other communities create their own Halloween Fun Fest. The local Early Childhood Community Coalition has shown interest in taking on the Helena event, so we can focus our efforts and resource to making more of a statewide impact.

<http://www.kx1h.com/story/30191705/halloween-costume-swap-coming-up-in-helena>
<http://www.ktvq.com/story/30345684/montana-childrens-trust-fund-hosts-halloween-fun-fest>

Montana Children's Trust Fund
CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

http://helenair.com/free-halloween-fun-fest/article_2348d4bc-3efd-5cb8-9a8a-4b98267270d5.html

OTHER AWARENESS ACTIVITIES:

The MT CTF will continue the above efforts from 2014-2015 but will also collaborate with other agencies and partners to raise awareness of the benefits of trauma-informed care and early education for all generations as it relates to prevention. In 2014-15, the MT CTF increased our statewide collaboration. We plan on continuing to build these relationships in our efforts to ultimately end child abuse in Montana. One change we intend to make for the 2016-2017 cycle is to pass off our annual Halloween Fun Fest to the local Early Childhood Coalition (ECC). It will continue to be a great awareness activity for the MT CTF that helps connect providers and potential clients. We will support the ECC in the continuation and provide them with a manual to ensure effectiveness and a smooth transition. Additionally, we hope that this type of fun event will be picked up by other ECC's across Montana as it will help connect communities and services.

XVI. CHALLENGES AND AREAS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

COMBINED 2014-2015 REPORT AND 2016 APPLICATION

During 2013, the MT CTF board saw much change; saying good-bye to 6 of the 7 members and welcoming 6 new members. In 2014 the new board members determined that they wanted the MT CTF to have more of an impact across Montana. The new MT CTF board is dedicated to continuously learning and improving our practices, procedures and outcomes.

In the 2014-2015 cycle the MT CTF received technical assistance from FRIENDS to get the new board members trained on the CBCAP guidelines. Additionally, FRIENDS provided training and technical assistance (phone call, emails, webinar and in-person workshop) on the PFS Database.

In 2013, the CBCAP Lead, Jamey Petersen, found that 20 hours per week was not adequate to effectively complete necessary tasks for the MT CTF. The MT DPHHS Director's Office allowed an increase in hours to compensate for the growing duties, up to an average of 30 hours/week over a year. Additionally, the board approved spending additional funds to hire more staff to assist her in carrying out the larger vision of the strategic plan. The new position has been approved and a hire was made in 2015. Though the MT CTF has built capacity for itself and others it foresees growth as one challenge. As we continue to grow we find that we have more and more work. We are coming up with new ways to continue to expand our work in prevention while maintaining a small staff. One way we are conquering this challenge is by delegating work to other agencies that are eager to help but don't have the capacity or experience to initially build additional activities. Two examples are the Halloween Fun Fest and pinwheels for prevention activities. These activities will continue to grow with limited input of time and resources from the MT CTF as we move to a model of collective impact by sharing the responsibilities and burdens with partners across Montana.

Montana Children's Trust Fund CBCAP Annual Report FY 2014-2015 and Application FY 2016-2017

We would find it beneficial to receive training to be more organized, for sustainability, and for board trainings. While we can facilitate these things from our partners such as the Montana Nonprofit Associations, etc. we would appreciate the support from FRIENDS if available. We would again like to invite FRIENDS to our Annual Fall Grantee Meeting to further provide training and technical assistance to our grantees and partners.

Overall, the board and staff do not see these as true challenges, but instead as opportunities for growth and improvement.

A challenge only becomes an obstacle when you bow to it. -Ray Davis

Any change can be a challenge but the MT CTF is taking bold steps to ensure that Montana is moving in the right direction for Montana Families.

Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything. -George Bernard Shaw

XVII. CERTIFICATIONS (LOBBYING)

SIGNED ORIGINAL WITH SIGNATURE ATTACHED IN PDF FORMAT

XVIII. ATTACHMENTS

COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING ORIGINAL, SIGNED DOCUMENTS ARE ATTACHED IN PDF FORMAT:

- ✓ Governor's Assurances Statement
- ✓ Governor's Letter of Assurances
- ✓ Lead Agency Assurances
- ✓ Leveraged Funds Claim Form

COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING ATTACHED IN PDF FORMAT:

- ✓ 2013-2014 MT CTF RFP (used to fund year 1 of 3 years for the 2014-2015 grantees)
- ✓ 2014-2015 MT CTF Grant RFR (used to renew 2013-2014 grantees in 2014-2015)
- ✓ 2016-2017 MT CTF RFP (used to fund determine funding for 2016-2017)
- ✓ 2016-2017 MT CTF RFR (used to renew 2015-2016 grantees for 2016-2017)
- ✓ 2014-2015 Grantee Quarterly/Final Report Form
- ✓ MT CTF Mini-Grant Application
- ✓ CAN Data Systems Evaluation REPORT
- ✓ Primary Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse in Montana
- ✓ 2014-2015 MT CTF Outcome Data Report
- ✓ 2014-2015 Testimonials and Stories
- ✓ 2016-2017 MT CTF Logic Model